

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3135.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1887.

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Dublin Castle, November, 1887.

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The Duke and his brother were born, the former on the 21st of June, 1818, the latter

on the 26th of August, 1819. They spent a most happy youth together, and had a warm affection for one another. Their father, who exercised a powerful influence over them, had a wholesome dread of unnecessary interference. A relative once asked him whether they were diligent and well bred. "My children," he answered, "cannot be ill behaved, and they themselves know that if they wish to become worthy men they must learn something, so I do not trouble myself further about the matter." They were carefully instructed not only in languages, but in history and natural science, and both made rapid progress in their studies. They had strong popular sympathies, and seem to have held decidedly "advanced" theological opinions. Sir Theodore Martin speaks of Prince Albert's "natural piety." The Duke is unkind enough to suggest that this expression was probably used for the especial benefit of the British public; "it was," he says, "even less applicable to him than to me." Prince Albert won golden opinions by his gentle and pleasant manners. According to his brother, however, it is a mistake to suppose that amiability was the leading feature of Prince Albert's character. He is here represented as a man of firm convictions and resolute will, and we are assured that, although he was essentially of a kind and benevolent temper, he could be bitterly sarcastic, and that his temptation was to be unduly contemptuous in his estimate of men whom he disliked. In describing Prince Albert's intellectual tendencies the Duke repeatedly refers to his love of clear and definite ideas. He arrived at conclusions by a sharply dialectical method, and was never satisfied until he succeeded in arranging them in strictly logical order. It was this characteristic which led the Emperor Napoleon to say, "Il a l'esprit si juste qu'on a toujours peur d'entrer en discussion avec lui, il a toujours raison."

In 1836 the brothers visited London, and were much impressed by "English society in its great forms." They were, of course, invited to Windsor, but received little attention from King William, "a genuine sailor, but unimportant in all other respects." The King was at this time physically weak, and fell fast asleep during dinner. Disraeli, who was already a well-known writer, did not please the young princes. The Duke remembers him as "a conceited young Jew of extremely Radical opinions." He appeared in society with his left arm in a sling, for which he was much ridiculed by his enemies, who said there was nothing wrong with his arm, and that he merely wished to make himself interesting. "He seemed," says the Duke, "to be one of those men who resolve to play a great part, and who, in consequence of this determination, attain their end."

After a short visit to Paris, where they were happier than they had been in London, they spent some months with their uncle, King Leopold, at Brussels. Here they had the advantage of receiving instruction from Quetelet, the influence of whose theories may be traced in many of the Prince Consort's speeches and addresses. The aim of King Leopold was that his nephews should have as many chances as possible of studying directly the social and political move-

ments of the day, and with this end in view he even allowed them to associate with Italian refugees. The freedom of their intercourse with men of all grades of political opinion occasioned much scandal in German courts, where the house of Coburg had been for some time exceedingly unpopular. Sometimes the brothers were so coldly received by German princes whom they met that they seemed to be practically excluded from the society of their equals. This treatment excited Prince Albert's indignation, and often caused him to give free scope to his talent for making the weaknesses of other people ridiculous.

They profited so much by what they saw and heard at Brussels that they were eager to have an opportunity of carrying on their studies at a German university. Accordingly it was arranged that they should spend three terms at the university of Bonn, and this plan was carried out. They attended lectures on an astonishing number of subjects, and greatly enjoyed their work. Oddly enough, they found that their opinions were far more liberal than those of the professors, the majority of whom were fond of talking about the divine origin of existing institutions. The professor who produced the most favourable impression upon them was A. W. Schlegel, whose affected manners did not prevent them from recognizing his abilities as a critic and historian of literature.

At the end of the third term the brothers parted, resolved that nothing should ever be allowed to check their mutual sympathy and confidence. Prince Albert awaited the conclusion of the negotiations which were now going on for his marriage with Queen Victoria, while his brother, who joined the Saxon army, settled at Dresden. The Duke is most cautious in his references to the difficulties with which Prince Albert had to contend in England. He says enough, however, to indicate that they were more formidable than most people now imagine; and he is careful to point out that if a position as splendid in fact as in name was ultimately secured, this was due not to good luck, but to the Prince's energy, patience, and self-control, and to the admiration excited by the best qualities of his mind and character.

In 1842 the elder brother married the Princess Alexandrina, the daughter of the Grand Duke of Baden, and he gives a most pleasant account of the circumstances which led to their union. There had been some talk of his marrying the Princess Marie, a daughter of Prince William of Prussia. Suddenly it was announced to him that the Princess Marie was to be given to the Crown Prince of Bavaria. He immediately resolved that, if possible, the Princess Alexandrina should become his wife; and after some informal inquiries as to the willingness of her parents to sanction the marriage, he went to Carlsruhe to see if his object could not be gained without tedious negotiations. He was received cordially by the Grand Duke and the Grand Duchess, but they made no reference to the purpose of his visit. At last he spoke of it plainly to the Grand Duchess, who explained that everything depended on the wishes of the Princess herself. The Princess was called, and when the two young people were alone he frankly told

her why he had come. The response was favourable, and he was able to write to his uncle Leopold that "in Alexandrine Heaven had allowed him to find everything that could have been wished for him."

In 1844 he succeeded his father as Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. From this point his narrative consists almost exclusively of a record of public events. About the revolutionary movement begun in 1848 he writes sensibly, with a clear perception of the causes from which it sprang. In his recent work on this movement Mr. C. E. Maurice speaks of the "absence of French initiative in the European revolution of 1848." The Duke knows his subject far too thoroughly to talk in this way. No doubt the most important fact to be taken into account is that all the conditions which tend to produce revolution had for some time existed in Germany. Having no real central government, the country as a whole was powerless; and in the individual states liberty was crushed under the burden of a stupid bureaucratic system. But the Germans are a patient people, slow to depart from established custom; and it may be doubted whether, even after all the provocation they had received, they would have risen against their taskmasters had it not been for the influence of France. The German authorities were well aware of the danger which attended the introduction of French ideas, and did everything they could to prevent the people from being infected by what was supposed to be a deadly political malady. Their efforts were wholly unsuccessful. In spite of the activity of the police, the writings of Socialist and Radical leaders passed freely across the frontier; and the Duke says he was often astonished to discover that productions of this kind had found their way even into quite unimportant places in his own territories. Moreover, the new doctrines were brought to Germany by numbers of workmen who, after spending some years in France, returned to their homes full of enthusiasm for the "rights of man." France, so far from having at that time no "initiative," never exercised greater moral authority over her neighbours. The Duke, who understood this, saw what was coming, and did his best to prepare for it by reforming the financial and political system of his duchies. He met with much resistance from certain classes of his subjects, and some of his schemes were condemned even by his brother. He had his reward, however; for in the hour of trial few German sovereigns were able with so little difficulty to come to satisfactory terms with their people.

The movement for national unity in this troubled epoch is described with great minuteness by the Duke, and most of his countrymen will agree that he looks back upon it from the right point of view. The difficulties in the way were enormous, and it was impossible that they could be overcome at a time when the throne of Prussia was occupied by a feeble and wayward king. Frederick William IV., the elements of whose character are here most accurately and distinctly determined, allowed the moment to pass when a powerful statesman might have moulded circumstances to his will; and then it became inevitable that Austria, backed by Russia, should sooner or later regain

her supremacy in Germany. The Duke does good service by reminding his readers of the great place held by Russia after the suppression of the Hungarian rebellion. For several years her sway in Europe was in some respects even more important than that of the German empire is now; and it is hard to see how the progressive forces of the Continent could have asserted themselves had she not been at least temporarily crippled at Sebastopol.

In the war with Denmark the Duke commanded the troops which gained the victory of Eckernförde, and it is natural that he should have a good deal to say about this notable incident of his career. Long ago, however, the world became tired of the terrible Sleswick-Holstein question, and interest in it will certainly not be revived by the Duke's rather tedious account of the struggles to which it gave rise in 1848 and 1849.

A History of Elizabethan Literature. By George Saintsbury. (Macmillan & Co.)

THIS is the first-fruits of an important undertaking. Mr. Stopford Brooke, Mr. Saintsbury, Mr. Gosse, and Mr. Dowden have combined to produce a new history of English literature in four volumes. Each writer takes "a main period," and works independently of his partners; but we may assume that a uniform plan has been adopted, and that the whole is intended to form a consecutive and harmonious narrative. Mr. Saintsbury's volume, although first published, is the second of the series, and it will be examined with interest, not only for itself, but for the indications it gives of the general scheme of the enterprise.

From one point of view Mr. Saintsbury's contribution deserves high praise. The writer has endeavoured to read order into as complex a series of phenomena as awaits any of his colleagues. He has tried to set a relative value on the manifold manifestations of literary activity in England between 1560 and 1660. No period of English literature stands at the moment in greater need of such an exposition. Until the lesser Elizabethan authors had been reprinted by Prof. Arber, Dr. Grosart, Mr. A. H. Bullen, and several other enthusiasts, few persons had any conception of the vastness of the literary effort of the Elizabethan and Jacobean epochs, or any opportunity of fairly studying its varied forms. But now that the revivalists have nearly done their work, the flood of knowledge which they have let loose is likely to overwhelm the student. He is embarrassed by the size of the library that has been opened to him, and is in danger, in the absence of good guidance, of mistaking alloy for pure gold. Nothing is more pitiable than for a literary beginner to fall into the traps with which antiquaries menace him, and to accept an editor's estimate of the author he has newly discovered. With a few chosen spirits such accidents are impossible, for they detect true literature by instinct. But with the many right literary judgment is the fruit of discipline, or, at any rate, of good advice. Mr. Saintsbury has undertaken this rôle of adviser, and performs it with admirable tact. The lesser Elizabethan literature marches in his pages at the side of

the great and familiar work of Shakespeare, Spenser, Milton, Bacon, and the rest. He illustrates his critical opinions by well-chosen extracts, which form an instructive anthology. Occasionally his estimates of authors are open to exception. In our opinion he overrates Glapthorne and underrates Breton; we should have liked more about Henry Vaughan (in spite of Mr. Saintsbury's warning note), and could, perhaps, have spared something of the notice of Carew; the historical literature of the period, with such characteristic figures of contemporary literary society as Speed and Stowe, Selden and Sir Robert Cotton, should not have been altogether overlooked; and the remarks on 'Paradise Lost' are not satisfying. But looking at Mr. Saintsbury's criticism as a whole, allowing for the vast tract of country it traverses, we regard it as a healthy stimulant for those who are studying or are preparing to study Elizabethan literature. Mr. Saintsbury is usually sympathetic and sane at the same time. Undue eulogy and undue disparagement in questions of literary taste will alike be avoided by those who follow his guidance.

But from another point of view Mr. Saintsbury's volume is less satisfactory. He has produced a stimulating critical essay, and has labelled it a history. He is nothing, he tells us, if not critical, and does not seem to realize sufficiently that the literary critic and the literary historian have each their proper functions, which, although they overlap here and there, are not identical. Mr. Saintsbury is evidently conscious that he has laid himself open to some such censure as this. He repeatedly reminds his reader that his space is too limited to allow him to attack any of the awkward problems of authorship and chronology which have puzzled generations of Elizabethan experts and imperatively demand a place in a literary history. But Mr. Saintsbury often alludes to these questions of facts and figures in so derisive a tone that it is difficult to ascribe their neglect merely to exigencies of space. "For my part," he writes of Shakespeare's 'Sonnets,' (the italics are our own),

"I am unable to find the slightest interest or the most rudimentary importance in the questions whether the Mr. W. H. of the dedication was the Earl of Pembroke, and if so whether he was also the object of the majority of the 'Sonnets'; whether the 'dark lady,' the woman coloured ill,' was Miss Mary Fitton; whether the rival poet was Chapman. Very likely all these things are true; very likely none of them is true. They are impossible of settlement," &c.

Such topics are not easily dealt with, but they are topics of literary history, and if they are not worth considering, literary history is in the same case. Nothing is more ridiculous than to overestimate the importance of these details or to treat them with pedantic confidence; but to ignore them altogether or to exaggerate the difficulties of solution, when some authoritative judgment on them is naturally looked for, hardly becomes the serious historian. For example, Mr. Saintsbury deems it consistent with his duty to insert a sentence or two about the sources of Euphuism, without venturing to arrive at any definite conclusion; but he really deprives his reader of pertinent and definite information, and ob-

scures the issue, by omitting all mention of the Spanish Guvara, whose popularity in Elizabethan England is certainly capable of accounting for much of Llyl's work. To such general matters of literary history as the status of the man of letters—his relations with his publishers, with his critics, his fellow authors, and his patrons—Mr. Saintsbury pays the scantiest attention. His dislike of dates leads him to renounce, as of proved futility, every attempt to arrange Shakespeare's plays in chronological order; and not a single date is associated with Marlowe or his works, or with the great translation of the Bible. It is, therefore, not surprising to find the lesser plays or the pamphlets, which are for the first time sensibly criticized, all undated. Mr. Saintsbury deems it advisable to give the dates of birth and death in the case of most of the writers whom he introduces; yet the dates at which many of their books were written or published are omitted, although they are often no less accessible, and always more important. Mr. Saintsbury is thus not quite consistent with himself. It is certainly undesirable to overload a brief handbook with too many disputable theories about facts and figures; but not all the theories are chaff, and to separate the chaff from the grain is the function of the literary historian.

In spite of Mr. Saintsbury's professions of indifference to the merely historical side of literary history, his practice shows that he rightly regards the whole matter as one of degree, and we think that he has not allowed sufficient space to the merely historical side. The mistake, however, is not irremediable. Without any very radical change more space might be allotted in another edition to pure history and less to pure criticism. Mr. Saintsbury could then not only be trusted to teach the student right literary judgment, which he has already proved himself able to do, but he would inculcate those habits of accuracy and definiteness in smaller matters which are essential to the learner in all departments of knowledge. If the book, with its forthcoming companions, is to form a permanent work of reference, it is necessary that it should fulfil the expectations that its title naturally raises. A final word of cordial praise is due to the index of modern reprints, which will prove of great service to every scholar.

The Life of Jabez Bunting, D.D. By his Son, Thomas Percival Bunting. Continued by the Rev. G. Stringer Rowe. (Woolmer.)

MEN whose interests lie outside the range of religious movements will probably ask, Who was Dr. Bunting? Thirty years ago the question could hardly have been asked. Jabez Bunting was for many years the secretary, and four times the president, of the Wesleyan Methodist Conference. He took a most prominent part in the organization of the Wesleyan Missionary Society, and devoted himself as senior secretary to its development. He was the founder of the Wesleyan Theological Institution, and he was its president from its commencement. He assisted in starting the once famous *Eclectic Review*; as book editor he superintended the literature of the Society; as editor

of the *Wesleyan Monthly Magazine* he infused a new spirit into a publication, which henceforward became wider and more general in its range. He was a most successful preacher. "It was in the pulpit," wrote one who knew him, in a passage quoted by the biographers, "that Dr. Bunting's greatness began; it was in the pulpit that his greatness was built up; and on the pulpit, I think, it ought primarily and chiefly to rest."

He was one of the originators, and, till his death, one of the leaders of the Evangelical Alliance. He was the representative of Wesleyan Methodism in all negotiations with ministers of State or Government officials, and he took a liberal interest in the progress of education, being frequently consulted respecting legislation for its organization. He was distinctively identified with the inauguration of a new policy admitting laymen to a share in the administration of the affairs of the Society, and in planting the germs of the system upon which is founded its present financial economy. He advocated with statesmanlike courage those mixed consultative assemblies, called Committees of Review, which have ultimately developed into the association of laymen with ministers in the legislative work of the Conference. To his guidance were mainly due the steps which directly tended to give Methodism an independent position, to supply it with all the ordinances of a church complete in itself, to remove it from the position of a supplement to the Establishment. Throughout the second quarter of the present century he exercised a supremacy in the Wesleyan councils which was little less complete than that of the founder himself. His talent for the details of business, his judgment, his tact and debating ability were enhanced by his self-possession and his courtesy. Qualities like these were the more conspicuous among men who were often over-zealous to comply literally with Wesley's precept when he "implored his preachers not to 'affect the gentleman,' telling them that they had 'no more to do with this character than with that of a dancing master.'

The mother of Jabez Bunting, Mary Redfern, had often waited upon John Wesley in the house of a wealthy Methodist named Brocklehurst, where she was a domestic servant. His father was a tailor; and at school Jabez was taunted as the son of a Methodist tailor, and perhaps the jeers of his schoolfellows may have increased his early tendency towards the Established Church. As a child he was familiar with its liturgy; "and when, almost as soon as he could speak, he began to preach in a garret at home, he punctually donned one of his father's shirts over his own clothes, and read the service for the day." The biographers, who throughout speak, as is to be expected, the dialect of Methodism, date Bunting's conversion from his fifteenth year. He was then excluded from a love-feast, because, though old enough to think for himself, he had not yet formally joined the Society. As he says himself:—

"Many attribute their conversion to their having attended a love-feast; I owe mine to having been shut out of one."

His first inclination was towards the medical profession; but, after a few months

of training, he determined to enter the ministry.

The momentous crisis through which Wesleyan Methodism was passing gives exceptional interest and value to this biography. The great organization which John Wesley had inspired with life and strength, and of which he had been the despotic administrator, was too firmly compacted to fall to pieces at his death. But it was in transition state. It had reached the dividing of the ways. In 1795 three important questions were already, or were shortly to come, before the Methodists. Was the Society to be separated from the Church of England? Was it to be organized as a Church by the provision of an ordained ministry? Was it to be considered the right and duty of the laity to assist in the management of the temporal affairs of the Church? Of all these subjects Bunting, young though he was, acquired a practical mastery.

"Of an eager disposition, and naturally apt at the solution of questions of practical difficulty, he noted every phase and change of the controversies of that period as they rose; he acquired a thorough insight into their nature and meaning; he became familiar with their essential principles; and he laid up a store of facts, precedents, and opinions which were of great and lasting service to him during the whole of his subsequent course."

The work of his lifetime was the settlement of these three questions.

Very early in his life the common sense and sobriety of judgment for which he afterwards became conspicuous were manifested. At a time when Methodism was rapidly extending, his moderating influence was especially valuable.

"Methodism, with its simple agencies for the conversion of the common people, attended the rise of the manufacturing system; and, in the dearth or famine of all other provision, made safe and beneficial the vast and sudden increase of the population and of its means of wealth."

It was fortunate for the religious life of England that there were men like Bunting, who, trained under the influence of Methodism, and believing in the purity of its system, yet recognized the utility of the Established Church. Bunting habitually used the Book of Common Prayer. "As to Episcopacy," writes his son and biographer,

"I believe my father rejoiced as much to see it prevail among the Methodists of America as he would have deplored any effort to introduce it among those in England."

He did not believe in the exclusive validity of episcopal ordination, but

"he believed in the abstract necessity of an order separated to the pastoral office, and in its appointment by the Lord Jesus as a perpetual institution. Yet further, he believed that apostolic precedents sanctioned the use of the imposition of hands as a solemn and fitting circumstance, but not as an essential part of the rite of ordination."

He dispassionately discriminated between men and things, between abstract theories and their concrete application; no accidents of professional rivalry, no personal disputes or private animosities, could prejudice the judgment which he had formed on the essence of the different questions.

One curious episode in his early ministry must be recorded:—

"At the Quarter Sessions held at Salford, on the 10th of April, 1799, he 'came before the

justices present,' and took the oaths and declaration which entitled him to the protection of the law 'as a Dissenting minister'; a formality which afterwards stood him in good stead in time of peril."

Nearly two hundred pages further on we find, without the assistance of the authors by way of note or reference, the nature of this peril:—

"What a strange interruption of his course would it have been if the press-gang, which seized him one afternoon on his journey to preach at Deptford, had put him on board a man-of-war, and had given him a turn of service in His Majesty's navy! He was physically and morally courageous, and, had chances favoured him, would have made an excellent admiral; but the production of the certificate given him by the Salford Quarter Sessions in 1799 put a stop to his promotion, after he had served his country, as a prisoner, for some five or six hours."

Of his personal courage he afforded an example during the Luddite riots. The district in which he resided was one principal scene of sedition;

"and the utmost caution and resolution were necessary to prevent the Methodist societies from being contaminated by the prevailing spirit of discontent and disloyalty. As usual, they were composed largely of poor artisans, and these suffered grievously, not only by the introduction of machinery in the stead of manual labour, but by the high prices of the prime necessities of life."

Bunting publicly and privately denounced all open violations of the law, and indignantly rebuked every form of crime. He became a marked man. His life was continually threatened; but his natural courage only made him more boldly face the storm.

In 1819 he was elected president of the Conference, and for the next thirty-five years exercised a supreme influence over its deliberations. His pre-eminence raised him up a host of enemies, and led to an organized attack upon his character and motives. The charges were for the most part anonymous, and were both virulent and incessant. He had, in fact, incurred the accusation which is always directed in democratic communities against those who have attained a supremacy of personal influence. He was accused "of the basest lust of power, and of utter want of principle in the use of the power he had gained." The character of the man, as depicted in this volume, rebuts the charge; it is explicitly repudiated by a declaration, signed by 1,100 ministers, which declared the abhorrence and indignation felt by the subscribers against these anonymous attacks. No doubt the malignity of his enemies both clouded and accelerated the end of his career. On one point, at least, there can be no question: he was wholly above motives of pecuniary reward. "There he is," writes Mr. Arthur,

"after fifty years of hard service, going down towards his rest with the eyes of the world upon him. He is powerful; but he is poor. From the great connexion for which he has lived, his sole revenue is a furnished house, coals, candles, and 150. a year."

We have presented a brief outline of Bunting's career. Our summary of the salient features of his life has been collected by a laborious process from the different parts of a bulky volume. In the biography itself no attempt is made to regard his life as a whole; there is not even an index by

which we might have hoped to gather together all the references to each particular portion of his work. Not only are the details of the events of Bunting's life extremely abundant, and the transactions that are recorded peculiarly complicated, but the volume is further embarrassed by brief biographical notices (inserted in the body of the text) of the Wesleyan leaders with whom Bunting was immediately or remotely connected. Thus while, on the one hand, the continuous interest is considerably impaired, on the other the volume is swollen to 767 pages. It will hardly be credited that a book of this character is not supplied with an index; it is not even furnished with references to pages in which the same event or personage has been previously mentioned. The biography was commenced by Mr. Bunting's son, who printed the first part twenty-eight years ago. It has been completed by the Rev. G. Stringer Rowe, and we consider that he failed in an important detail of his duty when he neglected to furnish an index. It ought, however, to be said that Mr. Rowe only claims to have "continued," not to have "completed," the work of Mr. T. P. Bunting. To the historian of Wesleyanism the volume is little short of indispensable, and it undoubtedly possesses a very considerable interest for any one who desires to study the development of a powerful religious sect. But in its present cumbersome and chaotic form the biography will scarcely make known the life and character of Bunting beyond the narrow circle of professed historians or interested students of the Wesleyan community.

Recollections of Forty Years. By Ferdinand de Lesseps. Translated by C. B. Pitman. 2 vols. (Chapman & Hall.)

We need not be surprised that more than half of these volumes is filled with "recollections" on the subject of the Suez Canal. They contain only fragments of the story, however, and, with one exception, say extremely little about other matters concerning which it would be interesting to have such personal information as M. de Lesseps could supply. The famous octogenarian's life has yet to be written, and when that is done the chapters now before us will bear considerable curtailment. Some, including the superficial essays on "Steam" and on "The Origin and Duties of Consuls," being neither biographical nor of any scientific or historical value, may well be omitted altogether.

M. de Lesseps had been in the French diplomatic service for more than twenty years—principally in Spain and Portugal, but also in Egypt, Syria, and elsewhere—before 1849, when he was sent on the absurd mission to Rome, which is dealt with at great length in the first chapter. This narrative is somewhat cruelly sneered at by Mr. Pitman, who says in his preface that, "having for many years enjoyed the friendship of M. Drouyn de Lhuys," he has adopted from his friend a "view diametrically opposite to that expressed by M. de Lesseps," and who adds, in terms that might lead cynics to say that he thinks it an excess of virtue to be an honest translator, "I have, therefore, left the latter to tell the story in his own words." The truth doubtless lies between the opposite

"views"; but, allowing for M. de Lesseps's pardonable vanity and more pardonable indignation, we can learn much from his one-sided report. When the French Government—called Republican while President Louis Napoleon was preparing for the Third Empire—sent General Oudinot to thwart the efforts of Mazzini and his friends to establish a Roman Republic in the spring of 1849, it was deemed prudent to send also a civilian messenger, commissioned, if he could, to persuade the Triumvirate to consent to a peaceful occupation of Rome by the French troops. This office was assigned to M. de Lesseps, who accepted it in good faith. Armed with vague written instructions from M. Drouyn de Lhuys, then Foreign Minister, and with verbal orders or requests from the President and others, he joined Oudinot at Civita Vecchia in May, and spent a fortnight in squabbling with his military colleague, paying flying visits to Rome, where he conferred with the revolutionary leaders, exchanging letters with them, and sending despatches to Paris which were never answered. At the end of the fortnight he was bluntly informed that his employers in Paris had "put a stop to his mission," and was ordered to return to France at once. He then began to see that he had been used merely as a tool to amuse the Roman Republicans while the French Republicans were completing their arrangements for attack. The strategy of Oudinot and of the Paris Government in this matter was clever, and was possibly advantageous to Europe as well as to France, for had Mazzini succeeded in his Roman experiment, the course of modern history might have been very different; but it was an ugly business. M. de Lesseps's naive and generally vainglorious report of his share in it, whether accurate in all particulars or not, gives better proof than any one else could furnish of his unfitness for the task on which he was employed. It also shows that, if he behaved unwisely, he was an innocent participator in the treachery which helped to ruin the Italian revolutionary movement. Some of his reports of meetings and conversations with the Roman Triumvir must be read cautiously, for he was not always a good judge of character, and his memory is often at fault; but there can be no doubt as to the genuineness of the letters from Mazzini which are here given, and these are the most important items in the chapter. If they contain nothing that is new, they afford fresh evidence of the great Italian's generous enthusiasm and loftiness of purpose.

The official disgrace that M. de Lesseps incurred by his honesty during the mission to Rome was serviceable to the world, as it gave him leisure in which to dream and scheme on the subject of a canal between Suez and Port Said. The chapter, of more than three hundred pages, which is entitled "The Origin of the Suez Canal," throws hardly any light on the financial history of this wonderful enterprise, and none at all on its engineering details. Being chiefly made up of extracts from his journals and from private and official letters written by him, it only tells the story by jerks, with many gaps and many repetitions. But it is interesting, and some of its most trivial passages are among the most welcome.

They bring out with wonderful clearness the character of this modern rival, under quite different conditions, of Columbus and Vasco da Gama. "I confess that my scheme is still in the clouds," he said in 1852, in a letter to a friend with whom he had discussed it twenty years before, "and I do not conceal from myself that, as long as I am the only person who believes it to be possible, that is tantamount to saying it is impossible." He had still to wait some years before he could persuade more than a few people that it was possible, and the work, not seriously begun till 1859, was not completed till 1869. The journeys to and fro, more than once into the heart of the Soudan, and repeatedly to Cairo, Constantinople, and London, and the correspondence and interviews with successive sultans, khedives, pashas, and ministers of all grades, which occupied these years, especially while the project was in its incipient stage, are here set forth with such detail as amply indicates the indomitable courage and perseverance of the projector, and other qualities that are worth understanding, though for precise information about the enterprise itself we must go elsewhere.

Chiefly valuable for their illustration of M. de Lesseps's own character, these pages also tell much about the people he came in contact with, and to English readers the references to Lord Palmerston and others of our own countrymen are especially interesting. Palmerston's long opposition to the project, which now seems both unreasonable and ungenerous, is well known; but M. de Lesseps brings out some facts that are fresh, and he incidentally throws humiliating light on the narrowness and shallowness of motives and methods that often pass for skilful diplomacy and wise policy. Those who are not sorry to be reminded of Lord Palmerston's timidity and prejudice will have a livelier satisfaction in reading M. de Lesseps's account of the more generous treatment he received from Cobden and Mr. Gladstone.

M. de Lesseps may be excused for concluding his work with the rather extravagant panegyric addressed to him by M. Renan on the occasion of his being admitted to the French Academy in 1885. "You were born to pierce isthmuses, and antiquity would have made a myth of you," is one of its happy sentences.

NOVELS OF THE WEEK.

Her Two Millions. By William Westall. 3 vols. (Ward & Downey.)
Pine and Palm. By Moncure D. Conway. 2 vols. (Chatto & Windus.)
A Border Shepherdess: a Romance of Eskdale. By Amelia E. Barr. (Clarke & Co.)
A Day of Life. By Mrs. C. Hunter-Hodgson. (Griffith, Farran & Co.)

It is not in the nature of romance that the heroine of 'Her Two Millions' should come by her own without difficulty; but Mr. Westall has used the fortune with unusual skill. From the opening chapter, in which the heroine's father is shot in Garibaldian times on Lago Maggiore, to the last, in which the ownership is satisfactorily established about the year 1871, the book is full of exciting scenes, plots, and searches; and the whole story is well put together and

runs along briskly throughout. It is observable as an ingenious contrivance that the heroine is kept in the background till the place in the second volume where novels are apt to drag, and a fresh impulse is very well given at this critical point. Mr. Westall's story would have been raised to a higher level if he could have put more interest into his hero's character; but within his limits he has done excellently. In this sort of story it is more necessary to be able to draw villains than heroes, and Mr. Westall has succeeded in representing some very bad specimens without exaggerating them outrageously.

Mr. Conway has produced an entertaining and clever story of two "goody-goody" young men (the epithet is his own) by looking through an old diary, searching his memory, and drawing these heroes of his youth as they "appear and reappear through rainbow archways, with morning glories about their heads." Two Harvard students, a Northerner and a Southerner, strike up an undying friendship, and though at one time they are near to fighting a duel over inherited prejudices, they come to an understanding by which the Virginian man is to "explore the North," and the Bostonian is to "explore the South," in order that they may study the social conditions which each is believed by his best friend to misunderstand. 'Pine and Palm' records their varied experiences, which at times are both romantic and exciting. They are optimistic youths, and come to the conclusion that there is more good amongst the people whom they respectively despised than they had been taught to expect. This romance of North and South is inspired by warm and sympathetic philanthropy, and leaves pleasant impressions behind it.

There are many pretty passages in Mrs. Barr's last effort. The author makes a good point in showing how the old moss-troopers of the Scottish border became "honest shepherds and farmers, stern and uncompromising moralists, men ready to die for their faith, yet possessing a character singularly marbled with veins from anterior lives altogether diverse." The story is pleasantly local and rural in its interest; but the prodigious amount of death and disease makes it melancholy from beginning to end. Of fifteen characters who come prominently on the scene, seven are killed outright; two are almost cut off by fever, but have their sentence commuted into banishment to America; and one is made an idiot. That the story is readable in spite of this speaks well for its general style and treatment.

In 'A Day of Life' Mrs. Hunter-Hodgson has written a tale which is intended to delineate that true love "which is crowned not crushed by Death." Whatever that particular quality of love may be, it is certain that Mrs. Hunter-Hodgson has not spared her epithets in attempting to describe it. The book may be confidently recommended to any one who delights in a superlatively rich and luxuriant style of writing. Indeed, the style is more than rich; to borrow a favourite word of the writer's, it is *luscious*. The plot itself is sufficiently extravagant, but its extravagance pales before that of the description of the scenery and the behaviour of the two principal characters, who are for ever driven by uncontrollable impulses, beset by convulsive shudders, and

breaking into sobs and moans. They meet at the gambling table at Wiesbaden.

"As a child beneath a tree of deadly nightshade will reach up and grasp unwittingly the red berries of death, so Hélène yearns into that poisonous atmosphere, grasping the noxious weeds of false joy, deeming that its glowing scarlets will allay the fever that is burning away her life. Vain dream! Vain effort!"

To look at her is "to deem her a Hebe in her teens"; but she is so sad that Charles Vansittart, a surpassingly beautiful young hussar, wonders what can be "this gruesome thing that so glooms my darling." The gruesome thing turns out to be "a dark historiette of wrong and suffering." She is married—married to a Russian noble, who "covers her with priceless gems and purple bruises"—married by the will of a cruel father, who threatened, in case she disobeyed him, to crush her as an insect beneath his heel, and who "as he spoke set his foot upon a ladybird, that flying in through the open window, had settled for an instant—a fatal instant—on the parquet floor." The love of the young hussar is, of course, returned, and the two wander on through a world of luscious odours, of colours—"purples," "scarlets," and "ambers"—that cling and cluster in masses, trails, and carpetings, under a sun that is always kissing and caressing and aureoling blonde uncovered heads, while the author herself wanders to her tragic *dénouement* through delicious and delirious mazes of pathos and bathos.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

The Clipper of the Clouds. By Jules Verne. (Sampson Low & Co.)
Gossips with Girls and Maidens, Betrothed and Free. By Lady Bellairs. (Blackwood & Sons.)
The Fiddler of Lysa. By the Author of 'The Atelier du Lys.' (Hatchards.)
In Cheviots Glens. By Jane T. Stoddart. (Edinburgh, Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier.)
Drones' Honey. By Sophie May. (Ward, Lock & Co.)
Barbara: a Story of Cloud and Sunshine. By Clara Vance. (Hodder & Stoughton.)
Sukie's Boy. By Sarah Tytler. (Same publishers.)
New Fairy Tales from Brentano. Told in English by Kate Freiligrath Kroeker. (Fisher Unwin.)
Keena Karmody. By Eliza Kerr. (Sunday School Union.)
Sandy; or, the Mystery of the Box. By Lucretia Maybury. (Same publishers.)
Walter Morris. By F. E. Reade. (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge.)
A Tale of a Country Village. By Sibella E. Bryan. (Same publishers.)
Aunt Hesba's Charge. By Elizabeth J. Lysaght. (Blackie & Son.)
Miss Willowburn's Offer. By Sarah Doudney. (Same publishers.)
Chivalric Days. By E. S. Brooks. (Same publishers.)
Miss Con; or, All those Girls. By Agnes Giberne. (Nisbet & Co.)
The Lads of Lunda. By Jessie M. E. Saxby. (Same publishers.)
The Count of the Saxon Shore. By the Rev. A. J. Church, M.A. (Seeley & Co.)
'THE CLIPPER OF THE CLOUDS' is a capital translation of one of the best of Jules Verne's romances, 'Robur le Conquérant,' adorned by many and thrilling pictures which were lacking in the original.
 Lady Bellairs, in her 'Gossips with Girls and Maidens,' treats in somewhat a diffuse manner of the whole duty of woman, and offers a vast store

of information and advice. The book is admirable in intention, and, it is to be hoped, may be useful.

From the author of 'The Atelier du Lys' we always expect good work, and we are not disappointed in 'The Fiddler of Lugau.' The scene is laid in the days of the Napoleonic wars, and life in the quaint old town is depicted with great spirit and reality. The character-drawing is excellent; there is great charm in the dreamy and gifted Wend and his cheerful little daughter.

There is an air of dulness and monotony about 'In Cheviots Glens,' a somewhat rambling tale of farmers and gipsies. We should like the title better if it boasted of an apostrophe.

'Drones' Honey' and 'Barbara' take us across the Atlantic, but we fare no better than 'In Cheviots Glens.' Both stories are rambling; both are dull, but the dulness of 'Drones' Honey' is relieved by an elaborate poisoning scene, while Barbara has the distinction of being drugged and robbed. On the whole, dulness adulterated with vulgar sensation is even more tiresome than dulness pure and simple.

It is a relief to turn to Miss Sarah Tytler, whose work is always wholesome in tone, if a little sad. 'Sukie's Boy' is certainly not cheerful. It is a chronicle of disillusion and failure; yet there is a charm about it, and the life of the Cope household "in the quiet main street" of the old country town of Cranthorpe is shown to us as in a Dutch picture.

The translator of 'New Fairy Tales from Brentano' tells her reader in the preface that the appearance of the volume is due to a widespread demand created by the great success of her 'Fairy Tales from Brentano,' published a year ago. She adds that she feels confident that the new fairy tales will not be a whit behind the others in point of interest, originality, and true fairy fancy; reminds her critics that in proportion to the charm and originality of the stories was the difficulty of translating and adapting them; and trusts that she has acquitted herself of the task not altogether unsuccessfully. It seems presumptuous to run against such high authority and dissent from such confident praise, but truth compels us to say that we fail to discern much charm in the stories, and that the manner of their presentation is to our mind far from pleasing. Surely a fairy tale ought to be simply worded! Will children who have been brought up on Grimm like to read of a castle "with the internal arrangements of which it was quite superfluous to find fault"? The translator is probably responsible for the wording, but to Brentano himself must belong the honour of the following poetic and inspiring thoughts: "Paper is falling lower than ever; raisins show a decidedly hopeful feeling; cod-liver oil displays a more cheerful tone; Spanish flies draw hard; blotting paper rules dull; hare-skins are by no means buoyant; the demand for size is maintained; spinning-wheels cranky, and pig-iron lively. N.B. Genuine and conscientious old oil-casks are in steady demand." The book is "pictured" by F. Cuthbert Gould, and though the colours are the gayest of the gay, the pictures have a certain humour and are not unattractive.

Why should the Sunday School Union publish books so unattractive and so devoid of merit as 'Keena Karmody' and 'Sandy'? The former is a wildly improbable tale of a foreign adventure and her prey, an Irish heiress; the latter calls itself in its sub-title a "mystery," but appears to be a perfectly straightforward, though utterly uninteresting, chronicle of the life and adventures of a worthy young Jew.

'Walter Morris' and 'A Tale of a Country Village' are two pleasant little tales of domestic life. The latter announces itself as a story for mothers' meetings, the former would make a good Sunday-school prize.

In 'Aunt Hesba's Charge' we have a pretty

tale of two charming little creatures who are the terror and the joy of their old maiden aunt.

'Miss Willowburn's Offer' is founded on the old, old story of the beautiful and baleful adventures. It is not a bad story, but it has the disadvantage of being entirely written in the present tense.

Mr. Brooks prints in 'Chivalric Days' "stories of courtesy and courage in the olden time"—stories of much interest in themselves, but spoilt in the telling. The style is long-winded, elaborate, and over full of moralizing.

'Miss Con' is quite one of the best girls' books of the season. Miss Giberne is evidently a keen observer, but in no one of her books has she displayed so intimate a knowledge of girls and their ways as in 'Miss Con.' Constance Conway is a charming heroine. Her diary, the chronicle of an eventful year, is an admirable collection of character-studies.

'The Lads of Lunda' is a capital book, telling of the pranks of boys in the far away Shetlands. The tales are full of fun and pathos. Some of them are reprints.

Of the many pretty tales which Prof. Church has produced at Christmastide of late years, 'The Count of the Saxon Shore' is by far the most ingenious. The main action takes place in A.D. 408-9, when the usurper Constantine removed the Roman legions from Britain. The count in question, "comes littoris Saxonici," is a L. Aelius Lamia, unknown to Gibbon, who is supposed to own the Roman villa lately discovered at Brading in the Isle of Wight. The heroine is his adopted daughter Carna, a British maiden of royal lineage; and the hero, or chief hero, is Cedric, a Saxon captive. The withdrawal of the legions causes an attempted revolt of the Britons. Carna is stolen away from her home, and is rescued at the very moment when she was about to be offered as a sacrifice at Stonehenge. The rescuers are besieged by Picts at Winchester, but ultimately make their way back to Brading. Aelius then embarks for Italy, leaving Carna, who becomes a nun; and he is no sooner gone than the Saxons land in the island and destroy the villa. This brief outline will suffice to show what opportunities for learning and imagination the tale contains, and it is needless to say that Prof. Church makes the most of them. There are a few regrettable misprints in the volume, as "Lase-troygones" and "Atualphus." The illustrations are plentiful, but not so good as usual.

RECENT VERSE.

Thoughts and Fancies for Sunday Evenings.
By Walter C. Smith. (Glasgow, MacLehose & Sons.)

Virginia, and other Poems. By Albert Francis Cross. (Sonnenschein & Co.)
The Old Garden, and other Verses. By Margaret Deland. (Boston, U.S., Houghton, Mifflin & Co.)

'THOUGHTS AND FANCIES FOR SUNDAY EVENINGS' is a collection of fifty-two short meditative and devotional poems—"partly songs, partly sermonettes," as their author calls them, with a good deal more sermonette than song. They are written in good taste, and with the necessary skill in rhyme and rhythm. And they have the merit—which some devotional poetry unfortunately misses—of being fitly reverent.

'Virginia,' a tale told in five-and-twenty sonnets, runs most dangerously near the Laureate's 'Maud' in its themes, and suffers accordingly. And the sonnet form does not lend itself well to such matter as this:—

'Tis blazon'd forth! the country-side doth ring
With last night's brawl, and I'm, for ay, undone!
The Squire, who comes, 'tis said, his future son
A debt full large, hath heard the shameful thing.
Sir Timothy meanwhile doth strive to bring
The marriage to a head; and I must run
The gauntlet of the county's scorn, or shun
Its icy stare beneath retirement's wing.

There are, however, better passages than this in 'Virginia,' and in the shorter poems of the

tiny volume. But it is difficult to think that Mr. Cross will attain success either as poet or humourist.

'The Old Garden, and other Verses,' by presumably a young writer (since a new writer), have the demerit of lacking a young writer's faults—of showing, instead of youthful haste and inequality, an expert's self-restraint and power of choice. This quality of completeness—so good in itself—is a demerit in Mrs. Deland's book because it takes the place of promise. There is an appearance of the author's having reached, or approached very nearly, her highest excellence. And what she has achieved is creditable art, but is not the poetry of the singer or the maker. Yet there are several of the poems which might be quoted as pleasurable reading. And there is one descriptive touch and one verse both of which have so much that instinct of the true poet we miss elsewhere in her work that we must give them:—

And 'gainst the broken plaster of the wall
Is blown the shadow of a climbing rose.

That is from the title poem. The verse, part of which seems to us exquisite, occurs in a little poem called 'May':—

Oh, sweet, fresh world, and young!
A bluebird flashes by,
And singing joy is flung
Through all the sky!

And in complete justice to Mrs. Deland we give that of her poems in which the emotion is the deepest and truest, and the treatment the most natural, her pathetic 'Death of Love':—

Once my friend, and dear! I gaze at you
Through mists of smarting tears,
For the relentless year,
Stand with averted eyes between us two.
Useless for me to clasp your hand in mine,
Groping through doubt and pain
To find our Love again,
Our dear, dead love, which died and made no sign.

Alas! that Love should die,
All, all unknown,
Unhonored by a sigh,
And all alone.

Poor Love! once ruddy strong,
None, none so true,
To you did Life belong,
And we to you.

Let no weak words be said,
Sure, sure 't is vain!
They cannot bring the dead
Whom we have slain.

Useless for old tender words to speak;
As well to try to bring
The breath of vanished Spring,
Or glory of a rose, long dead, to seek.

So grant poor Love a decent grave
And cereclothes, too,
An' deck his head with blossoms brave,
Dark pansies, mixed with rue!

But carve no stone to mark his bed,
Or show his name;
Enough for us our Love is dead,
Why tell the world our shame?

Poor murdered Love! this sharp regret,
This grief, is well.
But shall Grief live, or we forget?
Alas! we cannot tell.

Yes, even this our Grief, which takes Love's throne,
On some unconscious day
Unseen may slip away,
And Self be left in full content alone.

Poor human hearts, not great enough to wear
Remembrance like a crown:
Glad soon to lay it down—
Oh, sharper this, than grief of Death to bear!

There is an appalling sin in rhyme which besets Mrs. Deland. More than once she pairs off "dawn" with "gone." This really needs a protest.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MESSRS. GEORGE BELL & SONS have issued a translation by Miss Powell of *Frau Wilhelmine*, the last volume of 'The Buchholz Family.' It is in no respect inferior to the previous volumes. In the year of her silver wedding Frau Buchholz wishes very much to have a tour in Switzerland, and her husband promises that her wish shall be gratified if in the course of six months she makes no persons of her acquaintance either happy or unhappy by unnecessary interference

with their affairs. She accepts the condition, and of course acts exactly as her husband anticipates, for it would be impossible for the meddlesome Frau Buchholz to let six months pass without trying to find some outlet for her superabundant energy. In the scenes presented in the present volume she is moved by impulses of genuine kindness, and there are only slight traces of vulgarity in her occasional blunders and in the comical troubles that spring from them. The author has not essentially changed his conception of Frau Buchholz's character; but he is at pains to bring out more distinctly, towards the end, the finer qualities of her nature. Nothing could be better in its way than the account she is made to give of her treatment of her troublesome "helps," and the description of her silver wedding is excellent. In dealing with a silver wedding most German writers would be tempted to be decidedly too emotional, but Dr. Stinde's sense of humour prevents him from crossing the line that separates sentiment from sentimentalism. Miss Powell has done her work as a translator with much spirit and intelligence.

We have received from Messrs. Remington a translation of the *Memoirs of Count Horace de Viel Castel*, by Mr. Bousfield. The original work was, as is well known, full of the most scurrilous stories about living persons, and was also a book which succeeded in giving the reader a worse impression of the memoir-writer than perhaps any biography ever penned. The actions of the Count de Viel Castel may not have been worse than those of a real Casanova or of an imaginary Gil Bias, but neither Gil Bias nor Casanova preaches to the reader, whereas Count Horace de Viel Castel never ceases to preach even when telling his dirtiest stories. The first volume of the six of the original French series had a success, but the later volumes were unutterably dull, although as untruthful and as spiteful as the first. The translation is marked, we are told in the preface, by "much" omission; but the book still libels M. de Lesseps and other distinguished men of our time, and still says of living men, "His father was a mischievous rascal, but he is even worse," "a terrible scoundrel," and so forth. If the book had been worth translating it ought to have been furnished with an index of names, but the "if" is a large one. The translation, which occupies two volumes, contains some awkward slips of grammar.

THE recent settlement of the Russo-Afghan frontier question, says Dr. Lansdell, has induced him to publish, under the title of *Through Central Asia* (Sampson Low & Co.), a popular edition of his larger work on "Russian Central Asia." That work is so well known that there is no need to say more, with respect to the greater part of the contents of the present volume, than to recommend it cordially to such readers as are not acquainted with the former record of the author's adventurous journey. As regards the appendix, in which Dr. Lansdell discusses the course of events and the diplomatic correspondence which led to the appointment of the Afghan Boundary Commission, and gives a sketch of the manner in which the delimitation was performed, it will be sufficient to quote the author's concluding words:—

"Two things have struck me in my late mild course of Blue-book reading: first, the immense advantage, to those who like to form their own opinions, of being able to read, not the garbled accounts and one-sided comments of this or that political organ, but the very words in full of those who conduct our international affairs; and I have noticed and admired the care and thought and never-failing courtesy with which, on both sides, these negotiations have been conducted. It has greatly increased, too, my respect for our statesmen and diplomats, for I think England has reason to be proud of having in her midst men who bring such patriotism and culture to the service of their country. I could wish, nevertheless, now that the matter is settled, that their pens may find occupation in another direction; for beneath the late ne-

gotiations is seen unmistakably here and there the tendency to war; and war does not make for the highest form of national prosperity. There are loftier types of greatness to be attained by following after the things that make for peace, and the loyal recognition, all round, of a simple precept of seven words, 'Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself,' would have obviated the necessity for the whole paraphernalia of the Afghan Boundary Commission."—We have also received a new edition of Murray's *Handbook (Russia, Poland, Finland)*, Mr. Michell's admirable guide-book, revised by the accomplished author.

A MODEST preface tells the reader of *Chronicles of an Old Inn*, by Andrée Hope (Chapman & Hall), that the author's object in writing about Gray's Inn has been to give pleasure to relatives and friends, and to interest those who have not time to read more skilfully written histories. She writes with evidently genuine affection for the place, and notes most of the points of interest about it, and perhaps she may induce some people who never think of the sights of London to go and look at the fine old hall of Gray's Inn and even to glance at the elm trees in the garden. The chapters on worthies of the Society are most agreeably written.

MR. SKINNER has sent us the November issue of his excellent handbook *The London Banks*.—*The Publishers' Trade List Annual* (Trübner & Co.) is, as usual, a striking illustration of the activity of the trade in the States.—*The Calendar* of the Yorkshire College at Leeds contains an interesting report by the Principal. The difficulties under which literature labours in Yorkshire are illustrated by the following announcement of the lecturer in Spanish to his senior class:—"Text Books. Delmar's 'Spanish Grammar' and Ochoa's 'Antología Española' (Charles Hingray, Paris), or, in the event of the majority of the class preferring Mercantile Correspondence, Dann & González's 'Spanish Commercial Correspondence'." The italics are ours.

CATALOGUES have reached us from Mrs. Bennett, Mr. Gray, Mr. Grose, Mr. Higham, and Messrs. Rimell; and also from Mr. Ball of Barton-on-Humber, Mr. Wilson of Birmingham, Messrs. Fawn & Son of Bristol, Mr. Commin of Exeter, Messrs. Young & Sons of Liverpool, Mr. Sutton of Manchester, and Messrs. George's Sons of Plymouth. We have also received the catalogue of an important sale at Leyden next month. The books are many of them rare, but they are to be sold with all faults. M. van Leeuwen is the auctioneer.

WE have on our table *The Character and Times of Thomas Cromwell*, by A. Galton (Birmingham, Cornish Brothers),—*Vert de Vert's Eton Days*, by the Rev. A. G. L'Estrange (Stock),—*The Shilling History of Wales for Schools*, by H. J. Forrest (Simpkin),—*A General View of Chinese Civilization*, from the French of M. Pierre Lefèbvre, translated by J. C. Hall (Trübner),—*The Public and General Acts of Parliament of the Session of 1887* (Eyre & Spottiswoode),—*Literary Epochs*, by G. F. Underhill (Stock),—*Congregational Church Hymnal: Part II. Litanies and Chants*, edited by G. S. Barrett (Hodder & Stoughton),—*Other Sons than Ours, Essays*, by R. A. Proctor (Allen & Co.),—*The Architect's Register*, Vol. II. (Pope),—*Health Maps*, in Five Books, by Anna L. Arnim (Sonnenschein),—*John Canada; or, New France*, by Raoul de Navery, translated from the French by A. W. Chetwode (Dublin, Gill),—*Friend MacDonald*, by Max O'Rell (Bristol, Arrowsmith),—*An Old, Old Story of First Love*, by A. A. H. (T. Vickery Wood),—*The Peacock at Home*, by Mrs. Dorset (Simpkin),—*Pleasant Papers*, by Ancient Simeon (S.S.U.),—*The Best Book*, by the Author of "Higher and Higher" (S.P.C.K.),—*In the Dashing Days of Old*, by G. Stables, M.D. (Shaw),—*Acting on the Square*, by H. Boultwood (Shaw),—*Right Onward*, by Ismay Thorn (Shaw),—*Broken Legs, but Sound Hearts*, by B. Clarke (S.S.U.),—*Little Nell and*

Me, by Meta (S.S.U.),—*The Autobiography of an Acorn*, by J. Crowther (S.S.U.),—*Hood's Comic Annual for 1888* ('Fun' Office),—*The Child's Pictorial* (S.P.C.K.),—*Under the Storm*, by Charlotte M. Yonge (National Society's Depository),—*Uncle Ivan*, by M. Bramston (National Society's Depository),—*For Half a Crown*, by Eamé Stuart (National Society's Depository),—*Prentice Hugh*, by Frances Mary Peard (National Society's Depository),—*The Second Book of the Kings*, by the Rev. J. R. Lumby, D.D. (Cambridge, University Press),—*Dives and Pauper, Sermons*, by A. C. Auchmuty (Kegan Paul),—*Sunday Evening Lessons for a Class of Girls*, by E. M. Pool (S.P.C.K.),—*The Seven Sayings from the Cross*, by W. Bright, D.D. (Parker),—*The Dispensation of the Spirit*, by the Rev. C. R. Ball (S.P.C.K.),—*The Doctrine of the Lord's Supper*, by J. J. S. Perowne, D.D. (Nisbet),—*The Religion of the Future*, by E. von Hartmann (Stewart),—*Religio Vistoris* (Burns & Oates),—*Le Pays du Cant*, by S. Whitman (Paris, Quantin),—*Philosophie des Schönen*, by E. von Hartmann, Parts XIII. to XX. (Williams & Norgate). Among New Editions we have *A Popular History of France*, by Emile de Bonnechose, edited by H. W. Dulcken (Ward & Lock),—*The Prose Writings of Heinrich Heine*, edited by H. Ellis (Scott),—*Eccllesiastical English*, by G. W. Moon (Ward & Downey),—*God without Religion*, by W. Arthur (Bemrose),—*What Protection does for the Farmer and Labourer*, by J. S. Leadam (Cassell). Also the following Pamphlets:—*Federation and the British Colonies*, by P. H. W. Ross (Low),—*The State of the London Theatres and Music-Halls* (Warne),—*Moffat's Reprint of Queen's Scholarship Questions* (Moffat & Paige),—*Guide to obtaining Civil Employment*, by E. R. Hawks (Chatham, Gale & Polden),—*Hydrophobia in Relation to M. Pasteur's Method and the Report of the English Committee*, by Dr. A. Lutaud (Whittaker),—*Saul*, by J. N. Hearn (Plymouth, Mabin),—*Bagatelles*, by L. Meadows (Ridgway).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

Bain's (Rev. J. A. K.) *People of the Pilgrimage*, 1st Series, 6/- Cook's (H. B.) *Daily Truth, Selections from Holy Writ for Every Day in the Year*, 32mo, 2/- Elbard's (J. H. A.) *Apologetics, or the Scientific Vindication of Christianity*, Vol. 3, 8vo, 10/- cl.

Farrar's (Rev. F. W.) *Every-day Christian Life, or Sermons by the Way*, cr. 8vo, 5/- cl.

Holland's (Rev. H. S.) *Christ, or Ecclesiastes, Sermons preached in St. Paul's Cathedral*, cr. 8vo, 3/- cl.

Hope's (Lady) *Yet there is Room*, cr. 8vo, 2/- cl.

Jastrow's (M.) *Dictionary of the Targumim, &c.*, Part 2, 5/- Keil's (C. F.) *A Manual of Biblical Archaeology*, Vol. 1, 10/- cl.

Mackay's (Rev. H. O.) *One Thousand New Illustrations for the Pulpit, Platform, and Class*, cr. 8vo, 5/- cl.

Mackay's (Dr. W. P.) *Notes on the Books of the Bible*, 2/- cl.

MacLeod (Rev. N.) *Extracts from 'Love the Fulfilling of the Law'*, selected by his Daughter, A. C. MacLeod, cr. 8vo, 6/-

Mason's (A. J.) *The Faith of the Gospel*, a Manual of Christian Doctrine, cr. 8vo, 7/- cl.

Meyer's (Rev. F. B.) *Elijah, and the Secret of His Power*, 2/- Readings with the Saint, a Priest, 12mo, 3/- cl.

Shipton's (A.) *The Lord was There*, Ezekiel XXXV. 10, Incidents from my Journal, 12mo, 2/- cl.

Stanton's (R.) *Memories of England and Wales*, 8vo, 14/- cl.

Stowe's (Prof. C. E.) *History of the Books of the Bible*, illus. 8vo, 7/- cl.

Taylor's (W.) *Graded Lessons on the Gospel according to St. Luke*, 8vo, 3/- cl.

Law.

Levi's (L.) *International Law*, cr. 8vo, 5/- cl. (International Scientific Series.)

Outlines of the Science of Jurisprudence, trans. from the Juristic Encyclopedias of Puchta, &c., by Haslie, 6/- cl.

Fine Art.

Celebrated Pictures exhibited at the Manchester Royal Jubilee Exhibition, Notes, &c., by W. Armstrong, 52/- cl.

Gibson's (W. H.) *Happy Hunting-Grounds, a Tribute to the Woods and Fields*, illustrated, 4to, 31/- cl.

Hannay's (D.) *Glimpse of the Land of Scott*, illus. 4to, 10/- cl.

India's Pictorial and Descriptive, by Author of the 'Mediterranean,' illustrated, folio, 10/- cl.

Lowell's (J. R.) *The Vision of Sir Launfal*, illus. 4to, 63/- cl.

Property's (J. L.) *History of Miniature Art, with Notes on Collectors and Collections*, folio, 73/- cl.

Spiers's (R. P.) *Architectural Drawing*, 4to, 10/- cl.

Poetry and the Drama.

Commida and Canzoniere of Dante Alighieri, translated, with Notes, by E. H. Plumptre, Vol. 2, 8vo, 21/- cl.

Hood's Poems, Serious and Comic, 2/- cl. (Cassell's Red Lib.)

Neve's (J.) *A Concordance of the Poetical Works of Wm. Cowper*, royal 8vo, 21/- cl.

Old English Ballads, 8vo, 4/- cl.

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Carey (W.), Life of, by G. Smith, Popular Edition, illus. 7/6 cl.

Coffin's (C. C.) *The Boys of '61, or Four Years of Fighting*, Personal Observations with the Army and Navy, 7/6 cl.

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Darwin (C.), Life and Letters of, with an Autobiographical Chapter, edited by his Son, F. Darwin, 3 vols. 8vo. 36/ cl.

Frost's (C.) *Reminiscences of a Country Journalist*, cheaper edition, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Kinglake's (A. W.) *The Invasion of the Crimea*, Vols. 7 and 8. 8vo. 24/ cl.

Liszt (F.), Recollections of a Compatriot, translated from the French of J. Mohr by B. P. Ward, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Mackintosh's (J.) *History of Civilization in Scotland*, Vol. 4, 8vo. 15/ cl.

Morley's (S.) *Life of*, by E. Hodder, 8vo. 14/ cl.

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Pollock (Sir F.), Personal Remembrances of, 2 vols. 16/ cl.

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Smith's (G. B.) *William I. and the German Empire*, a Biographical and Historical Sketch, 8vo. 14/ cl.

Geography and Travel.

Ellis's (A. B.) *South African Sketches*, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

Wilkins's (W.) *Australasia*, cr. 8vo. 2/6 cl.

Philology.

Æschylus, *Prometheus Vinctus*, with Notes by M. G. Glazebrook, 12mo. 2/6 cl.

Byrne's (J.) *Origin of the Greek, Latin, and Gothic Roots*, 8vo. 18/ cl.

Fouqué's (De La Motte) *Undine*, a Romance, with Introduction by J. Cartwright, illustrated, 4to. 5/ cl.

Science.

Bartholomew's (J.) Handy Reference Atlas of the World, 7/6 cl.

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Baddeley's (St. Clair) *Lotus-Leaves*, folio. 8/6 bds.

Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, ed. by A. W. Pollard, Second Series, 12mo. 6/ cl. (Parchment Library.)

Cheshire's (F. R.) *Bees and Beekeeping*, Vol. 2, cr. 8vo. 8/6 cl.

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Stanley's (J.) *A New Face at the Door*, 2 vols. cr. 8vo. 21/ cl.

Taken In, being a Sketch of New Zealand Life, by Hopeful, 12mo. 2/6 cl.

FOREIGN.

Theology.

Bible (La), Traduction Nouvelle par E. Ledrain, Vol. 3, 7fr. 50.

Sébok (M.): *Die Syrische Übersetzung der Zwölf Kleinen Propheten*, 2m.

Wünsche (A.): *Der Babylonische Talmud*, übers. u. erläutert, 2 Halb-Bd. Part 2, 7m.

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Bajot (E.): *Les Styles dans la Maison Française du XV. au XIX. Siècle*, Part 1, 15fr.

Bigot (C.): *Peintres Français Contemporains*, 3fr. 50.

Durm (J.): *Ende (H.) Schmidt (E.), u. Wagner (H.): Handbuch der Architektur*, 7 Halb-Bd., 32m.

Peyre (R.): *Napoléon et son Temps*, Ouvrage Illustré, 30fr.

Walz (D.): *Eckfiguren am Ostgiebel des Olympischen Zeustempels*, 1m. 50.

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Palleron (E.): *La Bouris*, 4fr.

Schwarzkopf (A.): *Shakespeare's Dramen auf ewigen Grunde*, 4m. 80.

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Geschichte der Familie v. Wrangel, 100m.

Guerre (La) d'Orient en 1877-78, par un Tacticien, 5fr.

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Philology.

Luchs (A.): *Commentationes Prosodicae Plautinae*, Parts 1 and 2, 4m.

Luchs (A.): *Emendationes Livianae*, Parts 1-3, 2m. 20.

Melzi (B.): *Nouveau Dictionnaire Français-Italien*, 6fr.

Schneegans (H.): *Laute d. Sizilianischen Dialekte*, 4m.

Senecæ Patris (L. Annæ) *Scripta*, ed. H. J. Müller, 1m.

Science.

Hamann (O.): *Beiträge zur Histologie der Echinodermen*, Part 3, 15m.

General Literature.

Œuvres du Cardinal de Retz, édition de M. R. Chantelauze, Vol. 8, 7fr. 50.

THE CASKET LETTERS.

M. PHILIPPSON's explanation is to me an enigma. I wrote on the supposition that "he could not have been thinking" of the Callendar near Falkirk. If he identified the Callendar of the so-called "Diary" as Callander in Perthshire, while quite aware of the existence of Callendar House near Falkirk, the plea of ignorance is, of course, not available, and no other plea could justify such an extraordinary choice. But the short statement he now makes, ambiguous as it is, contains a number of errors of so gratuitous a kind as to indicate that this particular point has not received from him sufficient consideration. (1) That "he could not have been thinking of the Callendar near Falkirk" is unaccountable if, besides being aware of its existence, he knew that it was the residence of Lord Livingstone; that Mary had frequently stayed there, and had done so a few weeks previously in her journeys between Edinburgh and Stirling; that Hubert, Bothwell's servant—whether falsely or not does not matter—refers to it, and could refer to no other Callendar, in his confession; and that various writers, including Hosack, Mary's ablest defender, mention it in this connexion as "Callendar near Falkirk." (2) M. Philippson is in error in supposing that Chalmers seeks to prove, or even states, that Mary on her journey to Glasgow slept at Linlithgow. He quotes documents with a view to proving that she did not leave Edinburgh till the 24th of January (a point not now under discussion), but adds that she may have gone to Linlithgow on the evening of that day. Whether or when she visited Linlithgow he does not decide. (3) M. Philippson is in error in supposing that it matters whether she slept at Linlithgow or not (so far at least as regards the Livingstone scene described in the second casket letter, though it does for other reasons). It was sufficient that she should halt at Callendar, and that Livingstone should accompany her to Glasgow. For (4) the scene with Livingstone is not represented, as M. Philippson implies, as taking place at Callendar, but at Glasgow. Indeed, on the supposition that the letter is a forgery, it would have been suicidal to the purpose of Mary's accusers to have represented it as taking place at Callendar, for, according to their theory, Bothwell himself spent the evening at Callendar with Mary.

M. Philippson now says that the point is of no importance as regards the veracity of the "pretended diary," but it was he alone who assigned importance to it. In doing so he was undoubtedly right. I express no opinion in regard to the trustworthiness of the so-called "Diary," beyond stating that it does not pretend to be a diary in the usual sense, but merely a chronological statement of events with dates attached after the manner of a diary. Certain plausible, if not conclusive arguments have been adduced to explain, or excuse, or disprove its alleged discrepancies (to call them mendacities is to beg the question); but had it contained the assertion attributed to it by M. Philippson, not even the shadow of an argument could have been adduced in its defence.

T. F. HENDERSON.

DOMESDAY BOOK.

MR. BIRCH should either have kept silence or have frankly confessed that both he and Mr. Hamilton had overlooked Mr. Webb's discovery. Instead of this, he raises a cloud of dust to obscure the perfectly simple issue, namely, whether, as he asserts, Mr. Webb was "strangely ignorant of the true and important nature of this manuscript" ('Domesday Book,' p. 44), and

whether Mr. Hamilton "was the first to bring its importance to light" (*ibid.*, p. 43). I have established "beyond the possibility of doubt" that both these statements are simply and directly contrary to fact. That Mr. Birch erred through ignorance of the fact, I, of course, frankly recognize.

J. H. ROUND.

THE HIRST LIBRARY.

The important library of the late Mr. John Hirst, of Ladcastle, Dobcross, Lancashire, is to be sold at Sotheby's in the course of next month, viz., December 14th to 23rd. The main feature of interest, as it appears to us, in the sale is the large collection of early English Bibles and Testaments, many of them, however, unfortunately imperfect. There is mentioned in the catalogue a perfect Geneva Bible, 1560, the first "Breeches" Bible, but with "several leaves mended." There is also a Geneva Bible, 1610-12, perfect, in which the strange mistake of "Judas" instead of "Jesus" occurs in John vi. 67. There is also a Douai Bible, 1609-10, perfect. There is also a copy of the "Vinegar" Bible, printed by Baskett, 1717 and 1716. There are several Liturgies, both MS. and printed, comprised in the sale. Of topographical works there is a large collection, and there are also numerous works on geological, zoological, and other natural history subjects; besides a large amount of miscellaneous literature, embracing poetry and the drama, travels, history, and antiquities. Mr. Hirst began to form his library about thirty years ago. The number of articles in the catalogue is 3,475.

LADY HAMILTON AND LORD NELSON.

In his comments on my letter your reviewer makes certain erroneous statements on matters of fact, to which I am entitled by the honourable usage of the *Athenæum* to reply.

1. Instead of neglecting to discuss the old evidence on the question of Horatia's parentage, I discuss that evidence at great length, and in doing so show conclusively that the evidence of Horatia's parentage needs support neither from the Thompson series of letters published in Pettigrew's 'Nelson,' nor from "the conclusive letter" of which I exhibit so large a part on pp. 224, 225, vol. ii. of my book.

2. I say all that your reviewer alleges me to say of Mrs. Cadogan; but he is wrong in saying I regard her character with admiration. I speak of her as an "active, sensible, and respectable woman," and as "a sterling good creature," for a woman of her humble degree. But I say no word to justify the charge that I admire her character. Activity, intelligence, and sterling goodness are, I am glad to say, such common qualities that one can recognize them without wonder. My present butcher is an active, intelligent, and respectable man, but I feel no admiration for him because he has such commonplace merits. Most of us know "sterling good people" whom we regard with something of dislike, and even of aversion, though we can recognize their chief title to respect. Your reviewer makes the strange mistake of thinking that "approval" and "admiration" are synonymous. Throughout her humble career Mrs. Cadogan seems to have deserved the approval with which I regard her. Duly careful for Amy's education in her tender years, she placed the child in good domestic service as soon as she was old enough to earn her living. That Amy found her first place in one of the first families of Hawarden affords presumptive evidence that her mother was respected in the parish where she was best known, as it is not usual for such people as the Thomases of Hawarden to take into domestic service the daughter of a not respectable mother. On taking Amy to London, Mrs. Lyon placed her again in most respectable domestic service. The mere fact that the child soon "went wrong" is certainly no reason for throwing a stone at the

-mother, who appears to have done her best that the girl should "go right." In the absence of evidence to the contrary, it is only fair to assume that, on changing her name from Lyon to Dogan, Amy's mother made a second marriage with a man of her own humble condition. In subsequently improving this name of Dogan into Cadogan, the humble woman only did what is sometimes done by people of unimpeachable respectability. From the time when her giddy and erring child went to live in the Edgware Road, Mrs. Cadogan bore herself in a way that appears to have been decent, for a woman of her humble sort. At a time when he was set on separating Amy from all her dangerous acquaintances, Mr. Greville was of opinion that the closest association with her mother would be salutary to the girl. Thus respected by the fastidious Mr. Greville, Mrs. Cadogan won the good opinion of Romney, who gave her one of his best portraits of her beautiful girl. In later time she was held in favourable regard by Sir William Hamilton, who, in consideration of her good service as his housekeeper and nurse, left her a contingent legacy of 100*l.* per annum for life; and by Nelson, who used to address her as his "madre" in kind and sympathetic letters. Alike whether she was living under Mr. Greville's roof or under Sir William Hamilton's roof, or under Nelson's patronage, she paid for her entertainment by efficient domestic service. In language which must have jarred harshly against readers of the *Athenæum*, your reviewer spoke of this humble and always industrious woman as being "housed, fed, clothed, and maintained in luxury, on the wages of her daughter's prostitution." She never for a single day lived as your reviewer alleges. During the period of more than nine years to which your reviewer refers, Emma Hart certainly was not what your reviewer declares her to have been. If your reviewer will seek needful primary instruction in standard English dictionaries, he will discover himself to have been as wrong on this point as in his assumption that "approval" and "admiration" mean the same thing. Even when they are glowing with virtuous indignation, writers on a leading literary journal should use words with discrimination.

3. Your reviewer says that, in laughing at me for imagining that Emma "lived for several months at Naples, with servants in livery, &c. without any idea of Sir William's motive," he merely meant "that according to Mr. Jeaffreson the woman had no suspicion of the motive for which she had been brought to Naples." I might fairly urge that your reviewer should have said what he meant. But I accept his explanation, and do so the more readily because he is scarcely at all less wrong in what he meant than in what he said. I show by a letter, dated 30th April, 1786 (*vide* pp. 150, 151, 152, 153, vol. i.), that Emma Hart had not been five whole days at Naples without having a suspicion of the purpose for which she had been sent to Naples. I show how this suspicion must have gained strength from Mr. Greville's persistence in silence. And I show by another letter, dated July 22nd, 1786 (*vide* pp. 158, 159, 160, 161, vol. i.), when she had not been three whole calendar months at Naples, that she was fully aware of the purpose for which she had been made to leave England. "You have," she wrote in this letter to Mr. Greville, "sent me to a strange place, and no one prospect, but thinking you was coming to me. Instead of which, I was told I was to live, you know how, with Sir William." The tone of this letter seems to indicate that this clear knowledge was no recent discovery to her, and I write of the sure knowledge as though she had possessed it for a considerable time. "Several," used in the sense in which the word is used by your reviewer, means "more than two, but not very many." I show that Emma had nursed the strong and growing suspicion of "the purpose"—what your reviewer calls the "idea"—from the first week,

and had known "the purpose" at least from the close of the second month, of her stay in Naples. Your reviewer has not much bettered his case by the statement of what he "meant." At the most, he has only crept from the fire into the frying-pan.

JOHN CORDY JEAFFRESON.

* * 1. Mr. Jeaffreson's plan of discussing evidence by ignoring what tells against his view is, to say the least, peculiar. We repeat our opinion that he leaves the question exactly where he found it.

2. Mr. Jeaffreson now says that he does not admire Mrs. Cadogan, he only approves of her; and he appears to be annoyed because we do not share his approval. Nevertheless we do not consider Mrs. Cadogan "a worthy woman."

3. Mr. Jeaffreson is mistaken. We said exactly what we meant, what we thought, and what—after reading Mr. Jeaffreson's explanation—we still think.

DAME WIGGINS OF LEE.

13, Paternoster Row, Nov. 21, 1887.

THE authorship of this work has been wrongly ascribed to a Mrs. or Miss Sharpe, a reputed sister of the real claimant, apparently because another lady, a Mrs. or Miss Pearson, has also been named. I may, perhaps, be permitted to explain that one Lancelot Sharpe was a leading tradesman of the last century in Fenchurch Street, who left four sons: (1) The Rev. Lancelot Sharpe, M.A., of Pembroke Hall, Cambs, a master in Merchant Taylors' School, who edited Hales's "Chronology" and Chatterton's "Rowley Poems," 1796; he was also rector of Allhallows, Staining. (2) Richard Srafton Sharpe, the subject of this communication. (3) Thomas, who succeeded to a share of his father's business. (4) Charles Sharpe, publisher, of Vernor & Co., also of Hood & Sharpe (action for libel 1808), later of Dublin.

R. S. Sharpe, who died in 1852, is now represented by a Mr. Frederic Sharpe, the son, in advanced years. This gentleman is positive no aunt or aunt-in-law of his ever took to authorship. The late Mr. R. S. Sharpe, grocer and amateur poet, is undisputed author of the following: "The Pink, the Rosebud, the Wreath, and Fugitive Songs"; "Smiles for all Seasons"; "Old Friends in a New Dress," fifth edition, 1837, a sort of *Æsop* in verse, which elicited the admiration of Lindley Murray and Mrs. Trimmer; "Anecdotes and Adventures of Fifteen Gentlemen," 1822; "The Westons, or Scenes in a Village," second edition, 1852; "Fairy Tales in Verse"; and "Twelve Comical Boys."

This gentleman's claim to "Dame Wiggins" rests upon the recollections of his surviving relatives and the combination of talent and humour evidenced by the above list.

A. HALL.

REV. ULLICKE J. BURKE.

CANON BURKE, sometime Professor of Logic and Metaphysics and of the Irish Language in St. Jarlath's College, Tuam, was born in Mayo, and educated at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth. He had some knowledge of vernacular Irish when he went to Maynooth, improved it by study in that college, and wrote an Irish grammar. He was related to Dr. McHale, Archbishop of Tuam, an enthusiastic supporter of vernacular Irish; and when appointed to his professorship at Tuam, Burke encouraged in every possible way the study of Irish. He often preached in it, and when told that he had used words unintelligible to the peasantry, and, it may be added, unknown to Irish literature of any period, he used good-naturedly to reply that he had been born a pedant and could not alter his nature.

He published "Easy Lessons in Irish," a book full of extraordinary blunders, and thoroughly unsafe as a guide to the language. His knowledge of Irish rested on a slender basis, but he

had a genuine desire to see the language flourish and a love for its idiomatic expressions. His acquaintance with its literature was slight. His last work on Aryan origins could probably have been written in no college but Tuam. He died on Tuesday last. His pedantic turn of mind did not prevent him from being a genial companion; and if his learning was not profound, that was the fault of defective training, and ought not to detract from the respect due to his disinterested labours in a subject unlikely in Ireland to lead to either preferment or fame.

Literary Gossip.

THE Marquess of Lorne will contribute a ghost story, entitled "Who Were They?" to the December number of *Blackwood*. The scene is laid in Malta.

MR. H. HOWORTH, M.P. for Salford, is understood to be the author of the article on "The Future of Conservatism" in the current number of the *Quarterly Review*.

MR. ALFRED AUSTIN intends prefixing to the second edition of "Prince Lucifer," which is now being prepared for publication, an essay on "The Aim and Limits of Objective Poetry."

THE new evening paper to be sold at a halfpenny, which Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., will edit, is to be called *The Star*, and the first number will appear early in January next.

M. CHARLES YRIARTE has of late unearthed a number of documents in the Romagna, at Pau, at Simancas and Pamplona, which throw new light upon the career of Cæsar Borgia, especially with regard to the latter part of his life in Spain. The romantic story of his escape from prison and his death in an obscure skirmish is now for the first time made clear. A résumé of M. Yriarte's results is to appear in *Blackwood*, divided into three parts: Cæsar, Cardinal of Valencia; Cæsar, Duke of Valentinois and Prince of Romagna; Cæsar in Spain.

MR. FRED. VILLIERS, of the staff of the *Graphic*, will deliver a lecture at Willis's Rooms early in December, entitled "A War Artist's Experiences during the last Decade." Lord Wolseley and Lord Charles Beresford are expected, it is said, to be present.

A CORRESPONDENT writes expressing a hope that the two large collections of early deeds, documents, and papers which are to be sold by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson on Monday next may be acquired for the British Museum. The first collection contains about 1,500 documents, ranging in date from 1315 to 1810, and relating to the manors of Condover, Doddington, &c., in Shropshire; whilst the second lot contains about 3,000 separate documents, consisting of charters, grants, inquisitions, letters, &c., relating to Gloucestershire from 1321 to 1770. Most of these relate to the Berkeley family and to the Smyths of Nibley, the correspondence of John Smyth, the author of the well-known "History of the Berkeleys," being specially valuable as it belongs to the period 1600 to 1640. If these do not go to the national collection, are there no museums at Shrewsbury or at Gloucester public-spirited enough to buy them?

A brochure will shortly be published in London containing a full report of the trial of Muluk Chand Chaukidar for the murder

of his own child. This is a romance of recent criminal administration in Bengal. The report will be prefaced by an introduction from the pen of Mr. W. A. Hunter, M.P., LL.D., of the Middle Temple.

MESSRS. LONGMAN are going to publish 'An Inquiry into Socialism,' by Mr. Thomas Kirkup, author of the article "Socialism" in the last volume of the 'Encyclopaedia Britannica.' While that article is mainly historical, the aim of the book is to bring out what is fundamental in Socialism, both as contrasted with the prevailing social system and with theories which are usually mistaken for Socialism. A small series of prose essays on Scottish literary and rural subjects, by Mr. Hugh Haliburton, author of 'Horace in Homespun,' is to be issued by Mr. William Paterson.

MR. W. P. W. PHILLIMORE is about to edit a very useful monthly series of separate indexes and calendars to British records in the Public Record Office and other depositories. The first part, which is nearly ready, contains 'Chancery Proceedings, Bills and Answers,' 1625-49; 'Royalist Composition Papers,' series i. and ii.; 'Signet Indexes,' forming a key to the Patent Rolls, 1584-1624; and 'Northamptonshire Wills,' 1510-1639.

THE distinguishing feature of the new volume of the *Antiquary* will be a series of "Reminiscences" by eminent antiquaries, in which they will pass in review the chief events and personages of archaeological interest within their recollection. The first contribution, by Mr. William Francis Ainsworth, the veteran author of 'Travels in the Track of the Ten Thousand,' will open the January number; and Mr. Charles Roach Smith, Mr. William Brailsford, Mr. G. Laurence Gomme, and others, will follow.

THE first part of the new volume of the *Monthly Chronicle*, a publication devoted to the lore and legend of the North Country, will contain a sketch by Mr. Wm. Bell Scott of the late Rev. Geo. Cooper Abbes, a Sunderland antiquary and naturalist, who in his intimacy with nature almost rivalled Thoreau, and whose love for birds went so far as to permit them to build their nests unmolested in the rooms of Cleadon Hall.

THE manuscripts from the office of the late Mr. Ferrier, W.S., of which so much has been said, were sold in Edinburgh on Wednesday. Half a dozen lots in the printed catalogue were notified as "acquired by the Duke of Argyll," and were withdrawn. There seems to be no doubt of the genuineness of the documents exposed for sale by Messrs. Chapman, though the interest of the pieces, for the most part consisting of single pages, was not great to any but the collectors of autographs. If any spurious imitations have fallen into private hands they can be but few in number. A tantalizing entry in the catalogue was "Notanda of History of the War," in Latin, signed "Dun. Forbes," 1715. This would have been of the highest value if it had contained any reference to contemporary events by that distinguished patriot. It unfortunately turned out to be a comparatively youthful essay, from a juridical and ethical point of view, on the question, "An bellare unquam justum sit?" &c. It was sold for 16s. The proceeds of

the Jacobite portion of the sale amounted to about 90l.; the highest sum given for a single lot being 11l. 15s. for a Proclamation of Prince Charles to the Town Council of Dumfries, November 2nd, 1745.

WE are asked to say that Mr. Rider Haggard does not propose to visit America at present, although he may possibly do so next autumn.

A SMALL silver cigarette-case was presented to Mr. Sala yesterday (Friday) morning at the office of the *Daily Telegraph* in commemoration of his presiding at the sixtieth anniversary festival of the Printers' Pension Corporation.

YET another Russian novelist, M. Orloffsky, is to be introduced to the English public. Messrs. Sonnenschein & Co. will issue a translation of a novel of his by the Baroness Langenau.

A LITERARY man writes to us as follows:

"I recently purchased at a leading London bookseller's a valuable work published at the cost of the French Government in 1881 and following years. I find from the inscription on the cover of the first volume that I have in my possession the copy presented by France to the 'Chambre des Communes, Londres.' Now, whatever may be the opinion as to the propriety of turning such a work out of the library of the House of Commons, there can be no question as to the inappropriateness of selling it without effacing the inscription quoted above."

DR. CHARLES MACKAY has in hand a dictionary of Lowland Scotch, forming a vocabulary of leading words in the Scottish language, with etymological derivations. It is intended to be a volume of interest to readers of Burns, Sir Walter Scott, Allan Ramsay, and others. The book will be published in December by Messrs. Whittaker & Co.

PROF. ARCHIBALD GEIKIE will write on Darwin, Mr. Besant on 'St. Katherine's by the Tower,' Prof. Elmslie on the 'First Chapter of Genesis,' and Mr. Bennett Burleigh on the unemployed, in the next number of the *Contemporary Review*.

THE serial stories which the editor of *Cassell's Magazine* has arranged shall appear in the new volume are 'Monica; or, Stronger than Death,' by Evelyn Everett Green, and 'By Misadventure,' by Mr. Frank Barrett.

WHEN books will attain the lowest level of cheapness it is difficult to say. An edition of Dickens's 'Christmas Carol' and 'The Cricket on the Hearth' has just been issued in Liverpool; the brochure which contains both the stories is one penny in price.

OUR American cousins propose to form a society for the study of folk-lore, which shall establish a journal for the collection of relics of old English folk-lore (ballads, tales, superstitions, dialect, &c.); lore of negroes in the Southern States of the Union; lore of the Indian tribes of North America (myths, tales, &c.); lore of French Canada, Mexico, &c. Prof. Child and Prof. T. F. Crane are moving in the matter.

THE late Mr. Thomas Satchell, who had been engaged upon a second series of 'The Angler's Note-Book' for some years before his death, left the volume completed except the last few sheets. Mr. Alfred Wallis, of Exeter, has undertaken to complete the

work, and it will be published by Mr. Elliot Stock.

A CHILD'S book, 'Bumblebee Bogo's Budget,' by a Retired Judge, which we noticed some months ago, and of which a new and cheaper edition is advertised, is written by Mr. W. W. Follett Synge, author of 'Olivia Raleigh' and 'Tom Singleton.' Mr. Synge was Her Majesty's Commissary Judge in Cuba.

THE genuine 'Memoirs' of Garibaldi, written by himself in Italian, are to be published by Barbèra in the course of next month. They extend to the year 1874.

THE Educational Council of Austria has decided that the permission to marry should not be absolutely withheld from female teachers, but at the same time it recommends the local authorities to throw in their way as many impediments as possible.

A NEW volume of tales by the indefatigable Paul Heyse is on the point of being published. It will contain four stories, entitled 'Villa Falconieri,' 'Doris Sengeberg,' 'Die Märtyrer der Phantasie,' and 'Emerenz.'

CONTINENTAL papers say that, in accordance with a desire of Pope Leo XIII., a new edition of his work on the 'Duty of Humility' will be published in English, French, German, and Spanish, as well as in Italian.

MR. R. LANGTON writes:—

"In your issue of Saturday week you mention a page of very early work by the late Charles Dickens as about to appear as new matter. Will you permit me to say that Mr. Kitton has taken this from p. 106 of my 'Childhood and Youth of Charles Dickens,' published in 1883, of which book I sent a copy for review? Not only do I mention this fragment of MS. for the first time, but I give a facsimile of a portion of the writing. Mr. Kitton asked me some time since to be allowed to quote my book, and I at once gave him permission to do so, on condition of his full acknowledgment."

THE Director of Public Instruction in Madras has submitted some important proposals to the Madras Government with reference to the development of a modern side in Indian schools to serve as a direct preparation for commercial and other pursuits, completely separate from the side leading up to a university education. He strongly advocates the establishment, for students of the modern side, of an examination which will serve to test their attainments at the close of their course, in the same way as the matriculation examination tests the attainments of students at the end of the pre-collegiate course. This examination he urges should be accepted as a general test of fitness for the public service.

AT the meeting of the Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques on November 5th, M. Barthélémy St. Hilaire presented a report on Prof. Max Müller's 'Science of Thought.' M. St. Hilaire, though accepting the principle that language is impossible without reason, objects to the second principle on which the 'Science of Thought' is founded, that reason is impossible without language. "It is not surprising," he writes, "that so laborious a philologist as M. Max Müller should have allowed himself to attribute to words, which are the most perfect symbols of thought, an importance which may seem exaggerated. According to our view, thought is independent of language; it is anterior to

language, and far from being formed by it, one may say, in a certain sense, that it forms language. However that may be, M. Max Müller has treated the delicate subject which he wished to elucidate with great completeness and much knowledge."

After touching on the main topics of the 'Science of Thought,' and protesting strongly against some of its tenets, M. Barthélemy St. Hilaire concludes as follows:—

"On peut voir par cette courte analyse de l'ouvrage de M. Max Müller qu'il ne craint pas les idées neuves, ni même les idées paradoxales. Mais le paradoxe, tout en choquant les idées reçues, peut cacher et annoncer une vérité. Nous n'osserions pas affirmer que cette théorie de M. Max Müller soit aussi vraie que sans doute il le suppose. Mais c'est beaucoup dans des études aussi ardues d'apporter pour sa part des idées originales, qui doivent éveiller l'examen, au risque de la contradiction, venant d'un écrivain aussi savant et aussi autorisé."

MESSRS. POLLARD & CO., of Exeter, are going to publish by subscription 'The History of the Family of Borlase,' by Mr. W. C. Borlase, late M.P. for St. Austell, with large chart pedigree dating back to the time of William II.

THE chief Parliamentary Papers of the week are Historical MSS. Commission, Marquess of Abergavenny and others, Tenth Report, Part VI.; East India, Deccan Mines, Return; Local Taxation Returns, England, 1885-6, Part III.; and Colonial Possessions, Reports for 1885-6.

SCIENCE

The Life and Letters of Charles Darwin, including an Autobiographical Chapter. Edited by his Son, Francis Darwin. 3 vols. (Murray.)

"NATURE," wrote Emerson, "stretches out her arms to embrace man, only let his thoughts be of equal greatness. Willingly does she follow his steps with the rose and the violet, and bend her lines of grandeur and grace to the decoration of her darling child. Only let his thoughts be of equal scope, and the frame will suit the picture." These eloquent words may well occur to the reader as he lays down the last of the three volumes in which, with pious care and great skill in selection, Mr. Francis Darwin has furnished a fitting portrait of his father. Rising from them and setting at once to express one's feelings, it is difficult to find the means which will adequately represent to others the kind of emotions which the threefold picture has aroused. Mr. Darwin himself makes use of an expression of admiration which will best, perhaps, serve our present purpose; he wrote from Rio de Janeiro to Prof. Henslow: "I formerly admired Humboldt, I now almost admire him."

We have advisedly called the present 'Life' a threefold picture, for it commences with a most interesting autobiographical account or picture of Mr. Darwin, consciously drawn by himself for his children; it is followed by a touching chapter entitled "Reminiscences of my Father's Every-day Life," by Mr. F. Darwin; while the letters show us Mr. Darwin as he unconsciously revealed himself to others. The general result is that the reader gains an excellently vivid picture of one who was

even greater as a man than as a naturalist, a hero as well as a philosopher, and more rightly beloved for his moral nature than admired for his intellectual acquirements. The chief object which his biographer has set before himself has been that of illustrating his father's personal character; and he is to be sincerely congratulated on having well performed a task which, though it was not difficult, because of the noble simplicity of his father's nature, became so from the wealth of material at his disposal, and the character and variety of his father's work. In this connexion the world owes a deep debt of gratitude to Sir J. D. Hooker—"best of friends and philosophers"—for the care with which he preserved the letters received by him from his illustrious correspondent.

The first remarkable point in Mr. Darwin's character was its absolute simplicity. His belief in the good feeling and uprightness of other men was quite astounding; indeed, after the virulent attacks to which he was subjected on the publication of the 'Origin of Species,' it is wonderful that he did not fall into a permanent pessimism, in which, with Schopenhauer, he would have regarded the world as a " harbouring place for rascals." Instead of this he writes even of Bishop Wilberforce: "If you have not seen the last *Quarterly* do get it; the Bishop of Oxford has made such capital fun of me and my grandfather"; and of Mr. Mivart he seems to do no more than conclude "with sorrow that though he means to be honourable, he is so bigoted that he cannot act fairly."* We believe, indeed, that Mr. Darwin would never have mistaken, as the ordinary proverb-monger does, the words of Job, "and that mine adversary had written a book."

Virtues such as simplicity are often found to be only superficial; when the mind becomes unhinged by sorrow or despair the self-consciousness of the natural man is revealed. Burke showed himself to be of the same kidney as Mr. Thomas Sapson in the elaboration of his lamentations on the death of his son; but when Mr. Darwin lost his favourite child at Mavern he gave way to no public expression of his loss; the gravestone under the cedar to the north of the Priory Church bears only, in addition to the ordinary information, the simple and touching expression, "A good and dear child." Again and again it has been our fortune to see those words, and every time we see them they move us more and more. This genuine simplicity extended itself to every action of his life. Never was there a man who thought so little of fame or who so little thought he deserved it, and never was there one to whom the advice of Mark Pattison—"Shun above all that worst of slavery, the resting your happiness on the good opinion of others"—could be less appropriately given. Evidences innumerable of this central characteristic are to be found in the letters, as they were in the correspondence with Mr. Hancock, which we mentioned some months since.

We call it the central characteristic, for it is that from which many others flowed.

* The editor quotes Mr. Chauncey Wright's essay on Mr. Mivart from the *North American Review*. It may be useful for English and European readers in general, to whom the essay is probably more accessible in its pamphlet form as published by Mr. Murray, to state that pp. 23 and 24 of the Review are pp. 22 and 23 of the pamphlet.

It found expression in the "intense and almost passionate honesty" on which Prof. Huxley has insisted, for Darwin saw things as little through a glass darkly as mortal can ever hope to see them; it led him to see his own faults so distinctly that he was able to admire others unreservedly, to recognize his errors, to accept criticisms, and to avoid controversy; and it brought him, lastly, the esteem and admiration of the world, for "honour," as Solomon tells us, "shall uphold the humble in spirit."

And, so far as others were concerned, it was the prime cause of their affection for him. His daughter writes:—

"He was always so ready to be convinced that any suggested alteration was an improvement, and so full of gratitude for the trouble taken. I do not think he ever forgot to tell me what improvement he thought I had made, and he used almost to excuse himself if he did not agree with any correction. I think I felt the singular modesty and graciousness of his nature through thus working for him in a way I never should otherwise have done."

Prof. Huxley has put on record that Darwin had the same desire as Socrates to find some one wiser than himself. Mr. Romanes applies to him what Darwin himself had said of Henslow:—

"When I reflect how immediately we felt at perfect ease with a man older, and in every way so immensely our superior, I think it was as much owing to the transparent sincerity of his character as to his kindness of heart, and perhaps even still more to a highly remarkable absence in him of all self-consciousness."

His son describes his manner in the following terms:—

"When he was excited with pleasant talk his whole manner was wonderfully bright and animated, and his face shone to the full in the general animation. His laugh was a free and sounding peal, like that of a man who gives himself sympathetically and with enjoyment to the person and thing which have amused him."

The reader will recall the hero of Spenser: Whose every deed and word that he did say Was like enchantment, that through both the eares And both the eyes did steale the hart away.

One or two quotations from his letters must suffice to exemplify the points on which we have been insisting. Here is what he thought of the world's honours. On receiving the information that he had been awarded the Royal Society's medal he wrote to Hooker:—

"Amongst my letters received this morning I opened first one from Col. Sabine; the contents certainly surprised me much, but, though the letter was a *very kind one*, somehow, I cared very little indeed for the announcement it contained. I then opened yours, and such is the effect of warmth, friendship, and kindness from one that is loved, that the *very same fact*, told as you told it, made me glow with pleasure till my very heart throbbed.....Such hearty, affectionate sympathy is worth more than all the medals that ever were or will be coined."

His candid repentance about the work of the South American Missionary Society is of especial interest at this moment, when the missionary value of Christianity is under discussion:—

"I had never heard a word about the success of the T. del Fuego mission. It is most wonderful, and shames me, as I always prophesied utter failure. It is a grand success. I shall feel proud if your committee think fit to elect me an honorary member of your Society."

His generous appreciation of others is well exhibited by the following to Mr. Chauncey Wright:—

"I agree to almost everything which you say. Your memory must be wonderfully accurate, for you know my works as well as I do myself, and your power of grasping other men's thoughts is something quite surprising; and this, as far as my experience goes, is a very rare quality."

We must now select some of the sayings which illustrate the well-marked possession of humour. Weary with the length of his voyage, he writes to Mr. Whitley: "That this voyage must come to a conclusion my reason tells me, but otherwise I see no end to it." When he lived in London he used to "go and dine at the Athenæum like a gentleman, or rather like a lord, for I am sure the first evening I sat in that great drawing-room, all on a sofa by myself, I felt just like a duke." But he hardly felt like a duke on that day's entomologizing on the banks of the Cam when "under a piece of bark I found two *Carabi* (I forgot which), and caught one in each hand, when, lo and behold, I saw a sacred *Panageus cruci-major*. I could not bear to give up either of my *Carabi*, and to lose *Panageus* was out of the question; so that in my despair I gently seized one of the *Carabi* between my teeth, when to my unspeakable pain and disgust the little inconsiderate beast squirted his acid down my throat and I lost both *Carabi* and *Panageus*."

He was wise enough to remember one paternal lesson:—

"In this one respect I am in the state which, according to a very wise saying of my father's, is the only fit state for asking advice, viz., with my mind firmly made up, and then, as my father used to say, good advice was very comfortable, and it was easy to reject bad advice."

He had an argument with Sir C. Lyell, and he writes to Sir J. Hooker:—

"Lyell has written me a capital letter on your side, which ought to upset me entirely, but I cannot say it does quite. Though I must try and cease being rabid and try to feel humble, and allow you all to make continents as easily as a cook does pancakes."

He could be friends with men with whom he disagreed. Of Mr. Brodie Innes, sometime Vicar of Down, he said:—

"Innes and I have been fast friends for thirty years, and we never thoroughly agreed on any subject but once, and then we stared hard at each other, and thought one of us must be very ill."

His friendly banter of Prof. Huxley is in excellent style:—

"With respect to Automatism, I wish that you could review yourself in the old, and of course forgotten [do the Duke of Argyll and Mr. Gladstone agree?], trenchant style, and then you would here answer yourself with equal incisiveness; and then, by Jove, you might go on *ad infinitum* to the joy and instruction of the world."

And again:—

"For heaven's sake don't write an Anti-Darwinian article; you would do it so confoundedly well. I have sometimes amused myself with thinking how I could best pitch into myself, and I believe I could give two or three good digs."

He was, perhaps, better pleased with the booksellers than the critics, for he writes to Lyell that a friend had asked for the 'Origin of Species' at the bookstall at Waterloo Station, and "the bookseller said he had not read it, but heard it was a very remarkable book !!!"

And he could enjoy the fun of others. He repeated with gusto his brother's answer on being asked by Charles to read his 'South American Geology': "Upon my life I would sooner even buy it." He writes to Hooker of Lyell being

"so delighted with one of Agassiz' lectures on progressive development, &c., that he went to him afterwards, and told him 'that it was so delightful, that he could not help all the time wishing it was true.'"

But his best story was the

"Johnsonian answer of Erasmus Darwin's: 'Don't you find it very inconvenient stammering, Dr. Darwin?' 'No, sir, because I have time to think before I speak, and don't ask impertinent questions.'"

Unless, indeed, it be equalled by the letter "from a German homeopathic doctor, an ardent admirer of the 'Origin.' Had himself published nearly the same sort of book, but goes much deeper. Explains the origin of plants and animals on the principle of homoeopathy, or by the law of spirality. Book fell dead in Germany. Therefore would I translate it and publish it in England."

Many will ask, though most assuredly Mr. Darwin himself would never have done so, Was this great man, then, without faults? Well, there were rather what may be called failings; the most remarkable, and one which he deplores himself most bitterly, was the gradual loss of the aesthetic tastes:—

"My mind seems to have become a kind of machine for grinding general laws out of large collections of facts, but why this should have caused the atrophy of that part of the brain alone, on which the higher tastes depend, I cannot conceive. A man with a mind more highly organized or better constituted than mine, would not, I suppose, have thus suffered; and if I had to live my life again, I would have made a rule to read some poetry and listen to some music at least every week; for perhaps the parts of my brain now atrophied would thus have been kept active through use. The loss of these tastes is a loss of happiness, and may possibly be injurious to the intellect, and more probably to the moral character, by enfeebling the emotional part of our nature."

He supposed he was a very slow thinker, and laments the want of quickness in criticism. The latter, of course, is a consequence of the former, and the quality of the thoughts may well be balanced against the length of their gestation. But, undoubtedly, the difficulty of composition to which he refers incessantly was a great misfortune: "There seems to be a sort of fatality in my mind leading me to put at first my statement or proposition in a wrong or awkward form"—"I have as much difficulty as ever in expressing myself clearly and concisely; and this difficulty has caused me a very great loss of time"; but it had the advantage of increasing the period of self-criticism, and that he regarded as an advantage.

The state of his health afforded him quite sufficient reason for taking but a slight share in the general duties of a citizen, yet "in all parish matters he was an active assistant"; he was for thirty years treasurer of a friendly club at Down, and of the coal club, and he was for some years a county magistrate. His only official connexion with a scientific society was his three years' secretaryship of the Geological Society. He took great interest in the vivisection

question, and the settlement which was arrived at owed a good deal to the share that he had in the matter.

But if the amount of civic or social duty performed by him was small, his interest (as every reader of his 'Journal' knows) in human affairs was prompted by a noble and generous liberality and a remarkable elevation of sentiment. His regard for the native and savage races of South America, his hatred and abomination of slavery, his generosity towards the Zoological Station at Naples (vol. iii. p. 225) and to the work at Kew (vol. iii. p. 351), are sufficient to prove this.

The enormous quantity of work done by Mr. Darwin must often have led those who were unacquainted with the real facts to imagine that "his ill health" was a *façon de parler*; but they will learn now that it was not so. If he accomplished three hours' work a day he would say, "in a satisfied voice, 'I've done a good day's work.'" His children, Mr. Francis Darwin tells us,

"saw him in constant ill-health—and saw him, in spite of it, full of pleasure in what pleased them. Thus, in later life, their perceptions of what he endured had to be disentangled from the impression produced in childhood by constant genial kindness under conditions of unrecognized difficulty."

After a touching reference to the devotion of Mrs. Darwin, a thing so sacred that her son hesitates to speak of it, he adds:—

"But it is, I repeat, a principal feature of his life that for nearly forty years he never knew one day of the health of ordinary men, and that thus his life was one long struggle against the weariness and strain of sickness."

Elsewhere Prof. Huxley has spoken of the "physical difficulties which would have converted nine men out of ten into aimless invalids." The numerous references to his health which are to be found in his letters fully confirm these statements. Thus in 1841 he wrote to Lyell:—

"My father scarcely seems to expect that I shall become strong for some years; it has been a bitter mortification for me to digest the conclusion that the 'race is for the strong,' and that I shall probably do little more, but be content to admire the strides others make in science."

Some measure of the physical strength of his later years may be gained from another letter to Lyell twenty years later, when he was only fifty-two: "I have actually walked, I believe, good two miles out and back, which is a grand feat." In 1862 he writes to Mr. W. D. Fox, "My nights are *always* bad, and that stops my becoming vigorous"; and, a little later, "The other day I went to London and back, and the fatigue, though so trifling, brought on my bad form of vomiting."

We shall respect the delicacy of the son, and only remark that the fact of so great and so constant a sufferer working till seventy-one years of age, signally falsifying "his melancholy prophecy," and living till he could say with Dido,

Urbe preeclarum statui; mea moenia vidi, is sufficient testimony to the care with which his every-day life was surrounded. And, so far as concerns himself, his endurance, even without the masterly self-restraint with which he suffered malevolent criticism, would win for him the title of a hero. Compare the

joyousness of his letters with the daily whinings of Casaubon or the cruel gibes of Carlyle.

The details of Mr. Darwin's life are easily summed up. A youth of no great promise; a course at Cambridge, when he began to attract the notice of men older than himself; the voyage on the Beagle, of which every reader knows; a short period in London; and a life of retirement at Down, broken by rare visits to friends and rather more frequent visits in search of health, make up the sum. Of his work we will only say that, *pace* the Duke of Argyll, the theory of coral reefs would have sufficed for an ordinary reputation; the monograph on cirripedes would have justified a Royal Medal; his observations on domesticated animals, on orchids, on carnivorous plants, on earth-worms, or on the expression of the emotions, are, singly, works with which a naturalist might have been contented. The great central work and its companion on 'The Descent of Man' dwell, like a star, apart from any biological work by any other author.

Mr. Francis Darwin has brought together in a most convenient manner the correspondence relating to the 'Origin of Species,' and has woven the whole in a fashion which will give the second volume the highest scientific value. Here the letters to Hooker, Lyell, and Asa Gray are of signal importance. The most interesting point at this moment is the extent of Darwin's indebtedness to others—a point, it must be said, which his own desire to give due credit has a little obscured. This has been aided by the common belief that all great achievements are the result of a number of combined forces, or, as Mr. Gladstone eloquently says in 'Juventus Mundi':—

"When some splendid edifice is to be reared, its diversified materials are brought from this quarter and from that, according as nature and man favour their production.....Every worker was, with or without his knowledge and his will, to contribute to the work."

In his autobiographical sketch Mr. Darwin puts the matter very clearly and simply:—

"It has sometimes been said that the success of the 'Origin' proved that 'the subject was in the air' or 'that men's minds were prepared for it.' I do not think that this is strictly true, for I occasionally sounded not a few naturalists, and never happened to come across a single one who seemed to doubt about the permanence of species. Even Lyell and Hooker, though they would listen with interest to me, never seemed to agree. I tried once or twice to explain to able men what I meant by Natural Selection, but signally failed. What I believe was strictly true is that innumerable well-observed facts were stored in the minds of naturalists ready to take their proper places as soon as any theory which would receive them was sufficiently explained."

Malthus was his only intellectual father. The claims of Lamarck and of R. Chambers are sufficiently disposed of by the following, though it unfortunately—and as, curiously enough, was the case also with Charles Bell's 'Idea of a New Anatomy of the Brain'—bears no date:—

"Lamarck is the only exception, that I can think of, of an accurate describer of species, at least in the Invertebrate Kingdom, who has disbelieved in permanent species, but he in his absurd though clever work has done the subject harm, as has Mr. Vestiges, and, as (some

future loose naturalist attempting the same speculations will, perhaps, say) has Mr. D..."

As to priority of discovery—a "trumpery affair" in Mr. Darwin's eyes—he had, of course, predecessors of a kind; but Mr. Matthew, for example, can hardly be regarded as a serious competitor, for "one may be excused in not having discovered the fact in a work on Naval Timber." The last words in the following extract not only contain the real gist of the matter, but represent, as all the world knows, Mr. Wallace's own opinion:—

"So all my originality, whatever it may amount to, will be smashed, though my book, if it will ever have any value, will not be deteriorated; as all the labour consists in the application of the theory."

Mr. Wallace, who alone could be regarded as a serious competitor, has thus expressed himself:—

"I have felt all my life, and I still feel, the most sincere satisfaction that Mr. Darwin had been at work long before me, and that it was not left for me to write the 'Origin of Species.' I have long since measured my own strength, and know well that it would be quite unequal to that task."

The letters in the second volume reveal the slow, cautious, but steady progress made by Mr. Darwin in his convictions of the value of his theory, and they will always form the best *vade mecum* to a comprehension of his real intentions. The historian of the subject will be much indebted to Prof. Huxley for the vigorous chapter which he has contributed "On the Reception of the Origin of Species"; but at this moment, while every one must recognize its great value, its vigour impresses the reader not unfavourably, but painfully, when compared with the calm atmosphere of Darwin's benign geniality; it is a "tempest after sun," and not the "sunshine after rain." Yet if it is realistic, it is artistic in the sense of conveying to the reader a good idea of the tempest that raged, while fury, virulence, and ignorance sharpened every one of their darts, and misrepresentations and base imputations worked their wicked will. For Mr. Darwin and his theories that kind of thing is at an end, and Prof. Huxley hopes, though a good deal against hope, that it is at end for other people too. If this be so, none would more desire to have been its victim than Mr. Darwin; but as it is a kind of envy, we fear that it will continue to be what Bacon calls the "most impudent and continual of affections." That in Mr. Darwin's case it came to an end as soon as it did was largely because Prof. Huxley acted on the offensive as well as the defensive, that Lyell was converted, and Hooker a prophet. It is curious that Mr. Darwin's correspondence does not contain any remarks on Baden Powell's 'Unity of Worlds,' which, from the more strictly philosophical aspect, ought to have done much in preparing the minds of men for Mr. Darwin's views. The philosophy of Mr. Spencer has had, of course, enormous influence; and the interest which Mr. Darwin aroused quickened the study of biology throughout the world, and, as a consequence, brought daily adherents to his views.

But the great lesson which Darwin taught was by no means confined to biology.

Schleicher* of Jena early (1863) perceived the influence it would have on the study of language, and justly remarked that "the two main points in Darwin's theory have this in common with many other important discoveries, that they are confirmed even in those spheres which at first had been left unnoticed." It has made a belief in evolution possible in other branches of science, as was well shown by Sir R. S. Ball in his address on 'The Relation of Darwinism to other Branches of Science.' It has invaded the domains of politics and of morals; and theologians apply it to all religions but their own.

The numerous and valuable researches on botany are considered together in the latter part of the third volume; and here, again, the editor's method will prove of great assistance to the student. In these also the true genius of Darwin is seen—so slight appear to be the points which he selects for observation, so wide and far-reaching the results which he obtains.

As to Mr. Darwin's religious views we shall say nothing, "for he felt strongly that a man's religion is an essentially private matter, and one concerning himself alone"; and as to the question, which, in a suitable place, may be justly discussed, Do Darwin's scientific teachings incline to agnosticism or atheism? it is not proper here to say more than that a large number of evolutionists—such as Prof. Cope, whom we quoted a few months since—are most certainly neither agnostics nor atheists.

Here—though we have by no means said all, and still less quoted all that we wished—we take leave of these delightful volumes. If Mr. John Morley believes in "that terrible, that woeful, that desolating saying, There is in every man and woman something which, if you knew it, would make you hate them," he may now cite, we believe, a great instance against that truly dreadful law. If the Duke of Argyll has had reason to fear "idolatry" in the past, he will have much more reason now, for we of this day—and we ought to be particularly proud of our age—know that we have had among us one who may as justly as Gordon claim to belong to the band of gentle heroes, and as proudly as Newton assert his place among the great benefactors of mankind.

ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

EARLY next month the planet Venus will pass from Virgo into Libra, and towards the end of the year into Scorpio, a constellation which Jupiter will enter about the same time. In the first two or three days in January the two planets will be very near each other (Jupiter about 2° to the south of Venus), rising between 1 and 2 o'clock in the morning. Mars will be in Virgo throughout December, and pass very near η Virginis on the 12th. Saturn is in Cancer, and the only planet visible in the evening, rising about 8 o'clock.

It is not likely that much will be seen of the Biela comet meteors on the 27th inst., when the earth will again traverse their orbit, but at a part in which they are not very thickly aggregated. We shall probably have to wait until 1898 for another fine display. It is worth notice that we pass through this stream a little earlier each

* Mr. F. Darwin (cf. ii. p. 390) does not seem to know Schleicher's pamphlet first hand; it was translated by Dr. Bikkens in 1869, under the title of 'Darwinism tested by the Science of Language,' and was published by J. C. Hotten.

year, just the reverse of what we do with respect to the Leonids or meteors of the 14th of November, and in about three hundred years both displays will take place nearly at the same time, about the 20th of November.

Mr. J. M. Schäferle, assistant at the Ann Arbor Observatory, Michigan, U.S. (where he discovered the second comet of 1880 on the 6th of April in that year), has, like Mr. E. E. Barnard, been recommended by the director, Prof. Holden, for an appointment at the new Lick Observatory, California. Official action will not, however, be taken by the Regents until the observatory is handed over to the State, and in the mean time Mr. Schäferle will remain at Ann Arbor. It is hoped that active operations at the new observatory will commence early next year.

The Dearborn Observatory, Chicago, is under orders to remove from its present site to the North-Western University at Evanston, which is also in Illinois, and only a few miles distant from Chicago.

Iowa College, situated at Grinnell, Iowa, is building a new astronomical observatory, which will probably be shortly completed. For its use an 8-in. equatorial has been constructed by the Clarks.

An "Astronomical Society of France" has recently been inaugurated, and held its first meeting on the 12th of October, M. Camille Flammarion being the president.

Dr. A. Galle contributes a note to No. 2813 of the *Astronomische Nachrichten* on the near approach, which will take place next autumn, of the small planets *Astræa* and *Flora*. It appears that about the second week of September these planets will pass within a distance of less than 600,000 miles of each other.

We are informed by Mr. Denning that several meteors belonging to the Leonid radiant were observed on the night of the 14th inst. by himself at Bristol, by Mr. Booth at Leeds, and by Mr. Backhouse at Sunderland. But the display was meagre, as we anticipated it would be.

Prof. Schjellerup, Director of the Observatory at Copenhagen, died there on the morning of the 13th inst.

Sir R. S. Ball, the Astronomer Royal of Ireland, will give the children's lectures at the Royal Institution this year.

MR. DARWIN AND MR. S. BUTLER.

15, Clifford's Inn, Fleet Street, Nov. 22, 1887.

In Mr. Francis Darwin's recently published life and letters of the late Charles Darwin I find the following passage :—

"The publication of the 'Life of Erasmus Darwin' led to an attack by Mr. Samuel Butler, which amounted to a charge of falsehood against my father. After consulting his friends, he came to the determination to leave the charge unanswered, as being unworthy of his notice." Those who wish to know more of the matter, may gather the facts of the case from Ernst Krause's 'Charles Darwin,' and they will find Mr. Butler's statement of his grievance in the *Athenæum*, January 31st, 1880, and in the *St. James's Gazette*, December 8th, 1880. The affair gave my father much pain, but the warm sympathy of those whose opinion he respected soon helped him to let it pass into a well-merited oblivion."

If the affair "well merits oblivion" why does not Mr. Francis Darwin leave it alone? It has caused as much pain to myself as it can have caused the late Mr. Charles Darwin, and drawn upon me an obloquy not more easy to bear for being unmerited. I had resolved never to return to the subject, and, though very angrily attacked in respect to it by Dr. Krause in his German work 'Charles Darwin' was advised to say no more unless attacked in English. In 'Luck, or Cunning?' therefore, published a year ago, I refrained even from remote allusion to it. Now that Mr. Francis Darwin has reopened the matter let me ask why he has omitted to refer his

"* He had, in a letter to Mr. Butler, expressed his regret at the oversight which caused so much offence."

readers to my book 'Unconscious Memory' and to my letter to *Nature*, February 3rd, 1881, in both which places he is well aware that I stated the case with far greater fulness than in your columns or in the *St. James's Gazette*; and why does he not refer to some English publication for a statement of his father's case, instead of to a German book which few of his readers are likely to see?

In 'Unconscious Memory' I have explained that the letter to myself, in which, Mr. Francis Darwin says, his father expressed his regret, was, in reality, an aggravation of the offence. It is very short; why, I wonder, if it was a sufficient expression of regret, has not Mr. Francis Darwin printed it? He now contends that I brought a charge of falsehood against his father so frivolous that there can have been no necessity to reply to it. I, on the other hand, contend that Mr. Francis Darwin is trying to justify at my expense a high-handed action of his father's, and to evade challenges repeatedly made which neither the late Mr. Darwin nor any of his successors have ever ventured to take up. I repeat, then, that the late Mr. C. Darwin's pretended translation of Dr. Krause's article was a garbled, antedated, and hence misleading version; that Mr. Darwin knew the article had, since its original publication, been manipulated in a sense seriously hostile to me and favourable to himself; that in spite of this knowledge he said in his preface to 'Erasmus Darwin' that he was giving the original article; expressly stated that my own book had appeared subsequently to this, though he knew that what he was giving to the public had been modified by the light of, and turned into an attack on, my book; and on complaint from me he took not one single step towards a public correction of his misstatement.

S. BUTLER.

THE CROOKSHANK BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY AT KING'S COLLEGE.

ALTHOUGH in this country considerable interest has for many years past been taken by professed men of science in the work with which the names of Pasteur of Paris and Koch of Berlin will always remain associated, it is only within the last five years that any attention has been given to bacteriology by the practising members of the medical and veterinary professions. The discovery, in 1882, by Koch of the bacillus of tubercle was to many a complete revelation of a new field of inquiry. The work of Burdon Sanderson and of Klein under the medical officer of the Privy Council had had little practical effect on their minds; but consumption and its cause was a matter in which they were all interested. Not, indeed, that some did not ridicule the whole matter; the point is that the serious study of bacteriology as a branch of medical investigation began in England in 1882. In 1884 Mr. Watson Cheyne had a most interesting laboratory at the Health Exhibition, of which we gave an account at the time. It was hoped by many others besides ourselves that the interest excited by the demonstrations of Mr. Cheyne would be sufficient to justify the formation of a Government Institute of Bacteriology. This, however, was not to be, and it has remained, as it generally does in this country, for a private individual and an unendowed institution to undertake the work which in most states would be regarded as of public importance. Dr. Crookshank, a distinguished student of King's College, was one of the first to see the importance of bacteriology to the medical treatment of men and animals, and he took occasion to visit and study in various bacteriological laboratories on the Continent. His experience was embodied in a manual for the use of students, which was so rapidly bought up as to show that a desire for information on the subject was very widely spread in this country. Last spring the next step was taken by the Council of King's College appointing Dr. Crookshank Lecturer in Bacteriology, and, with the permission of the

Professor of Physiology, a course of lectures and practical work was given in the physiological laboratory last May; to this, however, only twenty students could be admitted, and many had to be refused. The great success of this course encouraged the Council to go further, and to institute the first professorship of bacteriology which has been founded in this country; to this, of course, Dr. Crookshank was appointed.

A large and well-lit apartment was set aside as a general laboratory, and during the past summer smaller rooms have been built in connexion with it. Any difficulty that the College might have had in suitably equipping the rooms was obviated by Prof. Crookshank's generous donation of one thousand pounds for this purpose.

Of the more important characteristics of this new laboratory, which is intended for the use of investigators as well as of students in bacteriology, we may note that each working table is completely fitted with all necessary adjuncts, so that each student is able to work quite independently. The microscope table is painted a slate colour, with a broad band of white. This arrangement allows of the mounting of preparations and the examination of cultivations on either a white or dark background. The new Welsbach burner has been applied to the microscope lamp invented by the professor, and has already proved of the greatest value; the steadiness, whiteness, and intensity of the light bring out with great effect the aniline dyes which are so much used in staining bacteria.

In the centre of the room are long working tables, provided with all the complicated apparatus now necessary in researches of this kind, and on side tables are various microtomes for cutting either ordinary sections or sections of a whole organ. The supply of microscopes is ample and extensive, and objectives made of the new glass are already in use here.

Prof. Crookshank's first course commenced on November 1st, and already applicants have to be refused admission. This is, in a sense, satisfactory, as it shows that in undertaking this new branch of work the College has responded to a widely felt need. The fact that investigators are particularly invited to make use of the laboratory is of much importance, and will, we hope, lead to this country taking a large share in investigations that are of the highest value to the health and wealth of mankind, and the comfort and hygiene of domestic animals.

SOCLETTES.

ROYAL.—Nov. 17.—The President in the chair.—The address to the Queen on the celebration of Her Majesty's Jubilee year, which had been presented since the last meeting of the Society, was read from the chair.—The statutes relating to the anniversary meeting of the Society were read, and the election of officers and Council was announced for Wednesday, November 30th, at 4 P.M.—The auditors of the Treasurer's accounts on the part of the Society were elected.—The following papers were read: 'Researches on the Spectra of Meteors' (a Report to the Solar Physics Committee), by Mr. J. N. Lockyer, and 'Specific Inductive Capacity,' by Dr. J. Hopkinson.

ASTRONOMICAL.—Nov. 11.—Mr. J. W. L. Glaisher, President, in the chair.—Mr. T. Bauchope was elected a Fellow.—The President read a letter from Mr. I. Roberts, in which he offered to place in the hands of Fellows of the Society who would provide themselves with the necessary microscope and micrometer scale negatives of stellar groups which would enable them to obtain valuable astronomical results.—Dr. E. J. Spitta read a paper on the appearance presented by the satellites of Jupiter during transit, with a photometric determination of their relative albedos. As the fourth satellite approaches the disc of Jupiter it becomes rapidly fainter, but when once on the limb it appears as a bright object on a darker background. After about ten or fifteen minutes it is lost for some minutes, and again appears as a dark patch, which becomes darker and darker as it approaches the centre of the disc, until it equals in intensity its own shadow, which is frequently seen at the same time on the planet. The phenomena

observed during transits of the first and third satellites resemble one another, but differ from those observed during transits of the first and fourth. The first during transit is sometimes of a steel grey, and has been described as a dark brown or dark grey. The paper contained several tables of measurements made with the wedge photometer of the brightness of the satellites and other objects with which they have been compared.—Prof. Pritchard read a paper entitled 'Further Researches on Stellar Parallax by Photographic Methods.' On each of fifty-three nights four photographic plates of μ Cassiopeiae had been taken, with exposures varying from five to ten minutes. Only about 3 per cent. of these plates were found to be unsuitable for measurement. Two suitable stars, called for the purposes of this paper A and B, were selected as comparison stars, approximately of the 9th and 10th magnitudes, and the resulting parallaxes were from star A '05 (i.e., about the twentieth of a second of arc) and from star B '02. If a correction for the adopted value of the proper motion of μ Cassiopeiae were made, then the respective values were '06 and '04 of a second of arc. Prof. Otto Struve in 1856 obtained by micrometrical measurements a parallax of '34 for this star. Prof. Pritchard intends to continue his researches with respect to all the larger stars visible from Oxford at a sufficient altitude down to the $2\frac{1}{2}$ magnitude.—Mr. Creswick exhibited some photographs of star groups which had been taken at Greenwich Observatory with the Sheepshanks equatorial on curved plates, for the purpose of determining the diameter of the possible field which could be made use of for measuring purposes. The general result arrived at was that a field of 4° in diameter might be used for very accurate measuring purposes, and that a field of 5° in diameter might be used where approximately accurate results were required.—The following papers were taken as read: 'Oxford and Harvard Photometry Compared,' by Mr. W. H. S. Monck; 'On the Images formed by Reflecting Mirrors' (Second Paper), by Lord McLaren; 'On the Orbit of γ Eridani,' by Mr. J. E. Gore; 'Occultation of Regulus by the Moon, observed at Dunkirk Observatory,' by Sir R. S. Ball; 'Occultation of Regulus,' by Rev. S. J. Johnson; 'Galileo Galilei and his Condannation,' by Mr. W. T. Lynn; 'Observations of Comets made at the Orwell Park Observatory in the Years 1886-87,' by Mr. J. I. Plummer; 'On Photographs of the Nebulae 57 M Lyre, 27 M Vulpecula, the Cluster 13 M Herculis, and of Stars in Cygnus,' by Mr. I. Roberts; 'The Total Solar Eclipse of August 19th, 1887,' by Rev. S. J. Perry; 'On the Probable Errors of the Star Places of the Argentine General Catalogue for 1875 and the Cape Catalogue for 1886,' by Mr. A. M. W. Downing; 'On the Reduction of Star Places by Bohnenberger's Method,' by Prof. T. H. Safford; 'Ephemeris for Physical Observations of Jupiter, 1888,' by Mr. A. Marth;—and 'The Total Solar Eclipse of August 19th, 1887,' by Dr. R. Copeland.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—Nov. 16.—Sir J. A. Picton, President, in the chair.—A series of sketches of ancient buildings and antiquities recently discovered was exhibited by Mr. J. T. Irvine, the greatest number being found in the neighbourhood of Peterborough.—Mr. Williams exhibited some mortar of flint-like hardness which had been sawn out of the Roodeye wall, Chester, as an example of the mortar used in its composition. There are a few fragments of Roman brick in its composition.—After some other exhibits, a paper was read by the President 'On the Walls of Chester.' After referring to the differences of opinion relative to the age of the walls which have recently been put forth, the belief was expressed that the truth would be arrived at only by a critical investigation, not alone of the walls themselves, but of the historical records. This the lecturer has endeavoured to accomplish. Commencing with the notices of old writers, many curious facts were elicited. Thus Geraldus Cambrensis speaks of the great quantity of Roman buildings which remained in his time. Roger de Hoveden, William of Malmesbury, Matthew Paris, and Higden all speak of the walls, and Higden mentions the stones laid like the work of Hercules. Turning to the present condition of the walls, the lecturer gave the results of the recent excavations. After comparing the ruin of Chester with the destruction of Anderida, which also remained desolate for many years, he referred to the continuous existence of Roman walls at both places. Turning to a series of elaborate plans showing the construction, he indicated that at all the points where excavation has been made, and some others, Roman masonry is visible. Speaking of one of the sculptured stones, on which the figure appears with a stole, he quoted Horace to show that stoles worn by women were sometimes worn by men.—A discussion followed, in which Mr. G. R. Wright described the fortunate coincidence which enabled the members of the Association to visit the walls during

the recent congress.—Mr. Blashill referred to the construction of the Porta Nigra, Treves, in which no mortar was used, the masonry being put together with metal cramps.—Mr. Loftus Brock reported the latest results of the excavations, which at the Roodeye show that the wall is backed up by thirteen feet of solid concrete.

NUMISMATIC.—Nov. 17.—Dr. J. Evans, President, in the chair.—Mr. J. H. Gibson and Major H. Trotter were elected Members.—The Rev. G. F. Crowther exhibited, on behalf of Mr. H. Symonds, a penny of Edward III. struck at Durham, with mint-mark crown on obverse instead of the usual cross patae; also a penny of Henry VIII., 'Cantor' second coinage, with W-A at sides of shield, and mint-mark T on obverse only.—Mr. L. A. Laurence exhibited a gold crown of Henry VIII. with the reverse inscription on both sides.—Mr. H. Montagu exhibited specimens of rare or unpublished sixpences of the Commonwealth, dated 1657 and 1659.—Mr. Krumbholz exhibited a rare half-crown of Charles II., 1681, with elephant and castle under bust.—Mr. Durlacher exhibited a half-guinea of George II., 1730, young head with E.I.C. under bust, no gold coins having been previously known of that year.—Mr. F. W. Pixley exhibited a complete set of the Jubilee coinage.—The Rev. G. F. Crowther read a paper 'On Groats of Henry VII. with the Arched Crown, Second Issue.'—Dr. B. V. Head read a paper, by Prof. P. Gardner, 'On the Exchange Value of Cyzicene Staters,' in which the writer maintained that the Cyzicene and the Daric were of the same value, and passed at Athens as equivalent to 28 Attic drachms, in the Persian dominions to 25, and at Panticapaeum to 22.—Dr. Head fully agreed with Prof. Gardner's conclusions, and stated that he hoped to be able to lay before the Society at an early date accurate specific gravities of a series of early electrum coins, together with the percentages of gold and silver contained in each specimen.

LINNEAN.—Nov. 3.—Mr. W. Carruthers, President, in the chair.—Mr. J. H. Hart was elected a Fellow.—The President announced with regret that during the recess the Society had lost by death, among others, the following eminent members: Prof. J. von Haast (New Zealand), Dr. S. Baird (United States), and Prof. Caspary, of Königsberg.—Mr. H. N. Ridley gave an account of his natural history collection in Fernando Noronha. The island is chiefly basaltic, but phonolite rocks crop up here and there. The indigenous fauna and flora seem to have been much modified and in some cases extirpated by human agency. Of mammals the cat is reported to have become feral, yet rats and mice swarm; Cetacea occasionally frequent the coast. The land birds comprise a dove, a tyrant, and a greenlet (*Virio*). Sea birds are numerous, though apparently less so than in the time of the early voyagers. Among reptiles occur an amphisbaena, a skink, and a gecko; turtles also abound in the bays. The entire absence of batrachians and freshwater fish is noteworthy. A well-known Brazilian species of butterfly is plentiful; though insects generally are abundant, there are, notwithstanding, but few species. Two shells (*Trochus*) show a southern distribution, though other marine forms indicate West Indian relationship. Several interesting plants were got: a *Solanum* with medicinal properties, a new *Erythrum*, and the flower of the 'burra,' a euphorbiaceous tree. Of ferns, mosses and hepaticas, lichens and fungi, several interesting sorts were collected.—Mr. G. Murray exhibited *Vallonia ovalis* from Bermuda and Grenada, the former sort consisting of a balloon-shaped cell an inch long and two wide. He explained by diagrams the development of *V. utricularis*, incidentally comparing this with *Sciadium*.—Prof. Marshall Ward showed specimens and made remarks on the peculiar development of *Agaricus* (*Amillaria*) *melleus*.—Mr. E. Heath exhibited examples of fruits of two species of *Solanum* from Barbadoes.—A paper was read 'On the Scars occurring on the Stem of *Dammara robusta*,' by Mr. S. G. Shattock. He says that the process of disarticulation of the branches is like that by which a leaf or other organ is shed. The parenchymatous cells across the whole zone of articulation multiply by transverse division, a layer of cork resulting from the formation of this secondary meristem, and through the distal limits of this solution of continuity occurs. After this the slender connecting bond of wood is broken across by the weight of the branch or the first trivial violence, this completion of the process being aided, perhaps, by the tension made upon the wood in consequence of the cell-division of the surrounding parenchyma which occurs across its axis. It thus happens that the whole of the parenchymatous system of the stem is closed by cork before the branch is actually shed.—A communication followed, by Messrs. J. G. Baker and C. B. Clarke, 'On the Ferns of Northern India,' it being

a supplement to a memoir already published in the Society's *Transactions*.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Nov. 15.—Prof. W. H. Flower, President, in the chair.—The Secretary read a paper on the additions to the menagerie from June to October, 1887. Amongst the accessions were specially noted a red-and-white flying squirrel (*Pteromys albitorus*), from the interior of China, an Urva ichneumon (*Herpestes urva*), and a young male gorilla (*Anthropopithecus gorilla*), being the first gorilla acquired by the Society.—The Secretary read a letter addressed to him by Dr. Emin Pasha, dated Wad-el-Ali, April 15th, 1887, referring to some communications which he proposed to offer to the Society.—Prof. Bell made some observations on the 'British Marine Area' as proposed to be defined by the Committee of the British Association. Prof. Bell opposed the idea of omitting the Channel Islands from the British area.—Prof. A. Newton exhibited a specimen of Bulwer's petrel (*Bulweria columbina*), believed to have been picked up dead in Yorkshire; Mr. H. E. Dresser specimens of a new species of titmouse allied to the marsh-tit (*Parus ater*), obtained by Dr. Guillemand in Cyprus, which he proposed to designate *Parus cyriotes*.—Mr. Boulenger exhibited a living specimen of a rare African batrachian (*Xenopus laevis*).—Communications were read: from Herr W. v. Nathusius, of Königsborn, on *Symbotes equi*, a parasite of the horse, causing what is called 'greasy-foot,'—from Surgeon-General G. Bidie, on a case of the breeding of the elephant in captivity,—by Mr. G. A. Boulenger, on the reptiles and batrachians collected by Mr. H. H. Johnston on the Rio del Rey, West Africa; amongst these were examples of two species of batrachians new to science,—by Mr. E. A. Smith, on three specimens of shells obtained by Mr. Johnston at the Rio del Rey,—by Mr. A. G. Butler, on two small collections of African Lepidoptera also obtained by Mr. Johnston,—from Mr. G. E. Dobson, on the genus *Myosorex*; the paper contained the description of a new species from the Rio del Rey (Cameroons) district, which he proposed to call *Myosorex johnstoni*, after Mr. Johnston,—and by Mr. G. A. Boulenger, on a new species of *Hyla* from Port Hamilton, Corea (now in the Society's gardens), which he proposed to name *Hyla stephani*, after its discoverer.

METEOROLOGICAL.—Nov. 16.—Mr. W. Ellis, President, in the chair.—Mr. C. E. de Bertodano, Dr. W. A. Bowen, Mr. F. J. Brodie, Dr. T. B. Hyslop, Prof. H. H. McMinnies, and Capt. T. C. Newton were elected Fellows.—The following papers were read: 'The Use of the Spectroscope as a Hygrometer Simplified and Explained,' by Mr. F. W. Cory. The object of this paper is to suggest as simple a way as possible of using the spectroscope as a hygrometer in order to facilitate its introduction amongst observers as a standard meteorological instrument.—'Rainfall on and around Table Mountain, Cape-town, Cape Colony,' by Mr. J. G. Gamble.—'On the Cause of the Diurnal Oscillation of the Barometer,' by Dr. R. Lawson. The object of this paper is to show that the diurnal oscillation of the barometer is mainly due to the combination of the earth's rotation with its orbital motion.

PHILOLOGICAL.—Nov. 18.—Mr. H. Bradley in the chair.—Dr. Whitley Stokes read a paper 'On Neuter Stems in the Celtic Languages,' in which he produced eleven undoubted and two probable fresh instances of these very rare stems. He then read several of his contributions to the new edition of Fick's 'Dictionary of Comparative Etymology,' and gave many fresh analogies of Indo-European roots in Old Irish, &c., with a few specimens of how Old Irish threw valuable light on obscure words in other Aryan languages.—The Honorary Secretary announced that the Council had approved the appointment of Mr. H. Bradley as joint editor with Dr. J. A. H. Murray of the Society's 'New English Dictionary.'

ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Nov. 22.—Prof. Flower, V.P., in the chair.—The election of Miss Hudson was announced.—Canon L. Taylor read a paper 'On the Primitive Seat of the Aryans.' In this paper the author discussed recent theories as to the region in which the Aryan race originated, and favoured the new hypothesis that Northern Europe rather than Central Asia was the home of the undivided Aryan race. According to this hypothesis the whole of Northern Europe from the Rhine to the Vistula is to be conceived as occupied by a Finnic race, whose southern and western members gradually developed ethnic and linguistic peculiarities of that higher type which we associate with the Aryan name. The Baltic Finns are survivals of this race. The Celts, owing to their remoteness, diverged at an early time from the eastern type, while the Lithuanians and the Hindus preserved many archaic features both of grammar and voca-

bulary. The Slaves must be regarded mainly as Ugrians, and the South Europeans as Iberians, who acquired an Aryan speech from Aryan conquerors. The time of the separation of the Aryan from the Finnic stock must be placed at the least five thousand or six thousand years ago. Of the metals the undivided race possibly knew gold and copper, but its tools were mainly of stone or horn. They sheltered themselves in rude huts, they knew how to kindle fire, they could count up to ten, and family relations and marriage were recognized. They were acquainted with the sea, they used salt, and they caught salmon; but it is doubtful whether they were acquainted with the rudiments of agriculture, though they gathered herbs for food and collected honey. They possessed domesticated animals, probably oxen and swine, and perhaps reindeer, but the sheep seems to have been unknown. If this hypothesis be established, a world of light is thrown upon many difficulties as to the primitive significances of many Aryan roots and the nature of the primitive Aryan grammar. We are furnished, in fact, with a new and powerful instrument of philological investigation. Comparative Aryan philology must henceforward take account of the Finnic languages as affording the oldest materials which are available for comparison.—The Chairman announced that Mr. F. Galton's lectures at South Kensington will be delivered on Saturday, the 26th inst., and the two following Saturdays.

HISTORICAL.—*Nov. 17.*—Mr. Hyde Clarke in the chair.—Mr. Oscar Browning read a paper 'On Hugh Elliot at Berlin, 1777,' in which he spoke of the account given in Carlyle's 'Frederick the Great' of the manner in which Hugh Elliot, when Ambassador at Berlin, stole the despatches of Arthur Lee and Sayre, the rebel American envoys. Carlyle says that he stole them against his will by means of a professional burglar, and enters into a number of details which are entirely without foundation. The true account of this transaction was not committed to writing by Elliot for fear of discovery. He sent home Mr. Liston, secretary of legation, to give a *vivid* report, which, taken down by Lord Auckland from Mr. Liston's lips, has been discovered by Mr. Browning, together with the stolen papers brought over by Mr. Liston, and some other papers which were apparently, at later period, abstracted from the Foreign Office archives. The story, as now known, not only throws light on an obscure part of history, but contributes a thrilling chapter to the romance of diplomacy.—A discussion followed, in which Messrs. C. A. Fyffe, R. Lloyd, S. Pagliardini, and the Chairman took part.

ARISTOTELIAN.—*Nov. 21.*—Mr. S. H. Hodgson, President, in the chair.—Messrs. W. Macdonald, R. J. Quicke, and G. F. Stout were elected Members.—Dr. J. McK. Cattell, of the University of Pennsylvania, read a paper 'On the Psychological Laboratory at Leipzig,' in which he advocated the systematic work of the laboratory, both for the education of students and for the advancement of knowledge. The study of consciousness is, as we all know, fraught with peculiar difficulties. The best results have been obtained when introspection has been combined with the objective manifestations of the contents of other minds, more especially when these have on the one hand become fossilized, as in language, customs, art, &c., or, on the other hand, are relatively simple, as in children, in savages, and in disease. But under circumstances the most favourable to scientific observation there are serious difficulties in the way of exact analysis and measurement, and it will be found that in psychology, as elsewhere in science, experiment gives the most trustworthy and accurate results. Experiment calls up the phenomena to be studied when wanted, and by keeping certain conditions constant and by altering others, gives us the best chance for analysis; above all, it enables us to photograph the transient phenomena and subject them to objective examination and measurement. An account was then given of the researches which have been undertaken in Prof. Wundt's laboratory, including experiments on the measurement of sensation, the duration of mental processes, attention, memory, and other subjects.—The paper was followed by a discussion.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

MON. London Institution, 5.—'The Evolution of Reptiles,' Prof. H. G. Seeley.
—Institute of Actuaries, 7.—'Opening Address by the President.
—Royal Academy, 8.—'Chemistry,' Mr. A. H. Church.
—Society of Arts, 8.—'The Elements of Architectural Design,' Lecture I., Mr. H. H. Statham (Cantor Lecture).
—Geographical, 8.—'Journey round Chinese Turkestan and along the Northern Frontier of Tibet,' Mr. A. D. Carey.
—Chemical, 8.—'Further Discussion on "Accidents in Mines,"' Prof. Royal, 4.—'Anniversary.
—Society of Arts, 8.—'Economical Illumination from Waste Oils,' Mr. J. B. Hanasy.
—Literature, 8.—'Literary Characteristic of Crabbe and Beckford,' Mr. M. Bell.
TUES. London Institution, 6.—'How Plants protect Themselves,' Mr. W. Gardiner.
—Linnean, 8.—'Ants, Bees, and Wasps,' Part II., Sir J. Lubbock; 'Myriapoda of Margul Archipelago,' Mr. R. J. Fecock.

THURS. Chemical, 8.—'Election of Fellows; 'Supposed Third Nitro-ethane,' Prof. Danstan and Mr. T. S. Dymond; 'Researches on the Use of Substitution in the Naphthalene Series,' Prof. H. E. Armstrong.
FRI. Civil Engineers, 7.—'Classification of Continuous Railway Brakes,' Mr. A. W. Metcalfe (Students' Meeting).
—Geologists' Association, 8.
Philological, 8.—'English Etymologies: Cess-pool, &c.,' Mr. M. Bradley.

FINE ARTS

VERESTCHAGIN EXHIBITION, NOW OPEN at the Grosvenor Gallery, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Electric Light during Fog.—Admission, One Shilling; after 6, Sixpence.—Will CLOSE SHORTLY.

'THE VALE OF TEARS'—DORE'S LAST GREAT PICTURE, completed a few days before he died, NOW ON VIEW at the Dore Gallery, 35, New Bond Street, with 'Christ leaving the Praetorium,' 'Christ's Entry into Jerusalem,' 'The Dream of Pilate's Wife,' and his other great Pictures. From Ten to Six Daily.—Admission, 1s.

CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

ONE of the most richly decorated and costly books of the season is Messrs. Low & Co.'s reprint of *She Stoops to Conquer*, with cuts after designs by Mr. E. Abbey, ornaments by Mr. A. Parsons, and an "Introduction" and "L'Envoi" in verse by Mr. Austin Dobson. Mr. Abbey's designs are all first rate—full of the right kind of spirit, which, while it represents the characters of the comedy and the striking situations and lively incidents of the plot, never allows us to forget that we are looking at a comedy. In fact, the brilliant engravings recall the life of the old English stage. The best figure is Miss Hardcastle, the stately beauty of a high-bred damsel being quite apparent under the homely attire of "a poor relation appointed to keep the keys." Marlow, on the other hand, is not so good a portrait. Better far than Marlow are the grotesque forms of Mr. Hardcastle's servants, every one of whom is original and distinct from his fellows. Mr. Dobson's additions are exactly what they should be. He has added a note or two of historical explanations where the flight of nearly one hundred and fifteen years has obscured the meaning of a few sentences in the play. It is strange that more notes are not required; and Mr. Dobson might have added profitably some observations on the local colour of the piece, as illustrating, for example, the enduring fame of Hogarth's 'A Rake's Progress' by a speech Mr. Hardcastle is supposed to have made. No one better than Mr. Dobson could have told the reader what was the "Ladies' Club" mentioned by Marlow while commanding his own accomplishments to Miss Hardcastle, or why Mrs. Bulkley in the "Epilogue" referred to "the Heinel of Cheapside"; and what sort of a horse was that Whistlejacket Tony talked of as capable of flying. Mr. Abbey has very cleverly illustrated the local colour of his subjects, for instance, by giving us, on p. 134, with exquisite craft, Reynolds's portrait of "Aunt Pedigree," exactly in the P.R.A.'s style of 1773, and numerous costumes and accessories, such as candlesticks, linen chests, a harpsichord, bookcases, sconces, and a bear who had been taught to dance to "Water parted" and the minuet in 'Ariadne.' He has expended surprising care on these minutiae, and his work profits accordingly. Why did not Mr. Dobson hint to his readers why Goldsmith alluded to this minuet?

Etchings of Venice, by E. George (Fine-Art Society), is a handsome volume in a well-designed and original cover, containing twelve etchings and descriptive letterpress by the accomplished artist. He treats of Venice not as an architect, antiquary, or poet, but as a lover of the beautiful as it is, and, not without a sigh of regret for charms which the Municipio is destroying, confines his notes to what he sees and has faithfully and picturesquely delineated. Mr. George noticed the general character of the crowds of traffickers, visitors, workmen, and loungers; but he eschews the histories of the buildings he has drawn with a broad and effective touch, with precision, and a due sense of the charms of lights and shadows and shimmering

reflections of the sea. Several of the subjects are identical with those of the water-colour drawings we lately reviewed while they were exhibited in Bond Street. Mr. George etches with less hardness and distinctness of definition than before; he draws with a heavier touch, and, securing abundance of force, lustre, clearness, and breadth while he does so, he has learnt how to omit those bits of detail which his earlier crisp and delicate touches elucidated with an unflinching hand. Some of his spaces of dark shadow, e.g., that under the great arch in 'San Marco' and behind the altar screen there, are crude and unsuitable to the intense richness of tone and colour of the nearer walls before us, which are finely and wisely treated, in a masculine and effective style. 'San Geremia,' with its Palladian façade of white marble shining in the sun, is one of the best plates before us. To be compared with it, but treated in a broader and more massive style, is 'Scuola di San Rocco,' with its clumsy, yet picturesque bridge, deformed by late alterations, its canal in shadow, but bright with reflections of the sun-charged sky. We feel, however, that on the whole Mr. George allows too little for the intensity of the darkness of most of the reflections in water of shadowed walls and bridges. Mr. George has delineated several fine groups of sailing boats. He has not been uniformly successful; for instance, the picturesqueness, dignity, and beauty of the curious craft in 'Fishing Boats' deserved much more careful draughtsmanship and a larger as well as a finer style. The broad and masculine view of 'San Stefano' is worthy of the subject. We hope Mr. George will publish many more etchings of Venice, and include a goodly number of those superbly picturesque interiors of which only one is before us.

NOTES FROM CRETE.

SINCE Dr. Halbherr left Crete on October 17th (he had been delayed until that date winding up the affairs of the excavations he had been charged with by the Italian Government), a very important and interesting discovery has taken place in the ancient city of Phæstos, not far from Gortyna, where Dr. Halbherr has been so long engaged, furrowing the ground and laying bare the foundations of an ancient law court, temple, and theatre all in one—for to three such different uses were turned the walls on which stands lettered the most ancient legal inscription in the world. Towards the end of October a little child, playing with the earth upon a hillock, found a fragment of gold. Excited by curiosity, and encouraged in the hope of further discoveries through the interest awakened in any antique object by the success of the foreigner who for the last few years has been labouring amongst them, the peasants of the neighbourhood began excavating on their own account, and soon brought to light a large number of objects belonging to the so-called Worship of the Isles. This phase of ancient religious development, called by the Germans *Inselskultur*, belongs to a period before that of Mycene ("Mykenische Culturepocha"), and is attributed by the learned to the pre-Hellenic populations of the islands of the Aegean Sea, namely, to the Carians or to the Lelegi. This is the first time that anything similar has been found in Crete. Hitherto the islands of Melos, Amorgos, Keros, and Thera were those which had obtained exclusively the distinction of having harboured in their soil, and latterly brought to light, objects of worship that could be safely identified with such a remote period. The first amongst the learned to call attention to this interesting subject were the Germans Thiersch and Ross; my friend Prof. Köhler (late director of the German School at Athens) next took up the matter for investigation; and lastly Dr. Dümmler in the *Athenes Mittheilungen*. It must, however, be observed that Mr. Theodore Bent has made analogous discoveries in the island Oliaros.

To the regions just mentioned we must now add Crete. The principal objects discovered, which have been already acquired for the Museum of the Greek Syllogos of Candia (now fast rising in importance), are the following:—

1. A marble statuette of a woman, nude, with her arms crossed upon her breast, after the fashion of the idols described by Thiersch in the *Abhandlungen der Münchener Akad. Philos. Philol.*, Cl. I. (1835), and like the examples brought from Amorgos, and now placed in the Polytechnic Museum at Athens.

2. Another copy like the above, rudely worked and without arms.

3. Marble head with well-ridged nose, but without eyes or mouth.

4. A gold ornament, twelve grammes in weight, in the form of a *sepio* or *octopodium*.

5. A small ornamental disc of bronze with a broad rim of gold all round.

6. A perforated ball of gilt bronze, channelled or fluted on the exterior.

7. A cylinder of terra-cotta with figures engraved on both ends, to be used for sealing.

8. Head of a man sculptured in relief upon a common stone or river-rolled pebble.

9. A lance-head in bronze.

The attention of the learned, recently drawn to Crete by the now historic discoveries of Dr. Halbherr, and by the publications of Fabricius, makes it interesting to watch the rise of the newly formed Greek Archaeological Society of Candia. On October 14th took place the annual general meeting of the Syllogos, when Dr. Chatzidakis was confirmed in the presidency, as all acknowledged that it was owing to his zeal and tact that so many precious relics of antiquity and monuments bearing on Cretan history have been saved from destruction, or from the less objectionable evil of exportation. Ten new members were enrolled, bringing up the sum total to a hundred. The excavations executed during the past twelve months were the clearing out of the cave of Psychrò, on the mountains of Lassithi, and of the grotto of Ili-thyia, near the celebrated river Kartero, named of old by Homer. The museum at Candia has been enriched by the acquisition of all the objects found in the excavation of the temple of the Pythian Apollo in Gortyna, undertaken for the Italian Government by Dr. Halbherr, and of which a description was given in the *Athenæum* of July 30th. Moreover, twenty pieces of marble sculpture have been purchased.

A very important publication for ancient Cretan history will be the catalogue of ancient Cretan coins, which is shortly to appear at Athens at the expense of the National Assembly of the island. This work will be compiled by M. T. N. Svoronos, assistant to the well-known Herr Postolacca, Keeper of the King's Cabinet of Coins at Athens. M. Svoronos has recently visited Crete, and has found there abundant materials for the completion of his studies.

Recent epigraphical researches in Crete have resulted in the discovery of various interesting inscriptions at Ledda, a spot on the coast south of Messara, where stood in ancient times the little city Lebena, then regarded as the harbour of Gortyna, from which it was distant only ninety stadia, and celebrated for its sanctuary of Esculapius. The texts refer for the most part to various miraculous cures effected by the god, and, like those recently discovered at Epidauros during the excavations of that marvellous *hieron* so ably carried out by the Athenian Archaeological Society, are very peculiar, and very important for the history of medicine and for a knowledge of the superstitions of the ancients. The longest inscription found is an ex-voto of a Roman person of distinction, by name Publius Granius, who, after being afflicted for some years with a cough that was wasting him away, avers that he recovered by the use of a singular prescription, which is set forth at length upon the stone. These new

epigraphical discoveries will shortly be published in the splendidly illustrated pages of the admirable *Museo Italiano*, edited by Prof. Comparetti at Florence.

JOSEPH HIRST.

Art Gossip.

MR. DE GRAY BIRCH writes:—

"The Chester authorities have kindly enabled me to exhibit the much disputed stone from the city wall of Chester, with the so-called ecclesiastical figure carved on it—maintained by Mr. Thompson Watkin to be mediæval, but by me to be Roman—to the Society of Antiquaries, before whom I shall read a paper on it at an early date. As the relic will only be at the Society's apartments, Burlington House, for a short time, Fellows of the Society and their friends will do well not to lose the opportunity of inspecting the stone if they desire to see it."

THE PRIVATE view of the Society of Painters in Oil Colours is appointed for to-day (Saturday); the public will be admitted on Monday next.

THE French Gallery has been opened for the winter as usual, but, as there is little in it of any value that was not on view when we last noticed the exhibition, we content ourselves with mentioning the circumstance.

MR. H. H. STATHAM is going to deliver the Cantor Lectures of this term. His subject is 'The Elements of Architectural Design,' and the lectures are intended to meet the requirements of a popular audience.

THERE is at last a movement in Belgium for the preservation of ancient monuments. The Belgian Academy of Archaeology has distributed to its members for criticism the sketch of a proposed law to be put into the hands of an eminent member of the legislature.

THE Bavarian Parliament also has followed the example of the French, and granted a sum for the "Inventarisierung" and descriptive "Statistik" of the art monuments and antiquities of Bavaria. A special commission has been appointed for the work under the presidency of Prof. W. H. von Riehl, as "General Konservator der Kunstdenkmäler und Alterthümer Bayerns."

A CORRESPONDENT much devoted to the study of engravings refers somewhat angrily to an announcement we made some months ago, that the second portion of Mr. R. Fisher's 'History of Early Italian Prints in the British Museum,' of which we have reviewed the first portion, was even then on the point of publication. He complains that not only does it appear that this statement was at least premature, but that, from inquiries he has made, it seems that the book is not even now in the press, and he deprecates the long and unreasonable delay in the appearance of the work. He asks for an explanation.

M. J. BRETON'S 'La Gardeuse de Dindons' was sold the other day in Paris for 25,115 fr.; Corot's 'Danse de Nymphes' for 28,000 fr.; and, so much has fashion changed, Delacroix's 'La Mort de Botzaris' fetched no more than 2,500 fr.

M. LOUIS GALLAIT, whose death was announced on the 20th inst., was the painter of many pictures until lately highly popular, which are probably the last exponents of a peculiar sentimentalism applied to historical painting, and unluckily lacked fire, genius, or sincerity. M. Gallait was an accomplished executant, although his technique was devoid of vitality, and commonplace to the core. The enthusiasm of artists he could never excite, but the melodramatic character of his designs ensured a large amount of popularity for his best pictures among the general public. M. Gallait was born at Tournay in 1810, where he was educated. His ability manifested itself very early, and while quite young he gained a prize at Ghent. He studied afterwards in the Academy at Antwerp. Tournay, much pleased with the cleverness of her son, who was not unreasonably compared with the then much admired Ary Scheffer, an equally fallacious designer and

much less capable painter, bought his 'Christ restoring Sight to the Blind Man,' and hung it in the cathedral. The city also granted Gallait a sum of money to enable him to study in Paris under, we believe, Hennequin. This was in 1835. His success was assured from this time. The Belgian West, Gallait was, however, much abler and more accomplished than the cold, but single-minded and sincere Quaker, whose pictures, like those of Scheffer, preceded his, so to say, in the tomb of estimable mediocrity. Of course Gallait gained a vast number of prizes, honours, and distinctions of all sorts, and he deserved them. He was a member of the Institute of France, an Honorary Foreign Royal Academician, Chevalier of the Crown of Oak of Holland, member of the Academy of Antwerp, and Knight of the Legion of Honour, and he obtained two French Medals of the Second Class (1841 and 1848). Had this excellent man died in 1862, when his popularity was at its height, and the ladies of England were enchanted by his pictures at the International Exhibition, he would, no doubt, have had the honours of a public funeral. At one time his productions were said to have realized large prices, but this does not seem to have been the case.

Decoration, the monthly journal of the house-painting and decorating trades, will after the December number be published by Mr. P. L. Deighton, late publishing manager in the house of Messrs. Crosby Lockwood & Co. The editorship will remain in the hands of Mr. Moyr Smith.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Sacred Harmonic Society.
CRYSTAL PALACE.—Saturday Concerts.

THE unusually liberal programme offered by the Sacred Harmonic Society this season has already been noticed by us. At the first concert on Thursday last week two of the three works presented were entirely new to the London public. We refer to Signor Bottesini's devotional oratorio, 'The Garden of Olivet,' which was produced at the recent Norwich Festival, and Mr. Cusins's 'Jubilee' Cantata, which was heard at one of the state concerts last summer. The Society is certainly to be commended for bringing a festival novelty to a hearing as quickly as possible, and no blame can attach to it because Signor Bottesini's work happened to prove vastly inferior to the 'Isaías' of Signor Mancinelli. It was scarcely probable that a second hearing of 'The Garden of Olivet' would tend to modify first impressions; nor has it done so, the original verdict we gave standing good in every particular. Considering the simplicity of the music, it was natural to expect a perfectly smooth performance; but as a matter of fact the rendering was painfully rough and slipshod, except as regards the soloists, Miss Annie Marriott, Miss Hilda Wilson, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Santley, who, as at Norwich, rendered the fullest justice to their melodious music. For the coarse singing of the choir and the frequent slips in the orchestra we fancy the composer was as much to blame as the executants. The constant stamping of the foot and beating of the score were irritating alike to performers and listeners, and it was in equally bad taste for the conductor to turn and bow at the conclusion of every number, touting, as it were, for applause, which in a "devotional oratorio" is assuredly out of place. The work of Mr.

Cusins is founded on Scripture texts, and would make a suitable anthem for Accession Day. It is in five brief numbers, consisting of tenor and soprano solos and three choruses. The soprano air is the best section of the work, but the whole is pleasing in a modest way. No fault could be found with the performance under the direction of the composer, and the cantata was well received. Mendelssohn's 'Lauda Sion,' which is so seldom heard that it was probably a novelty to many of the audience, concluded the concert, Mr. Cummings conducting. In memory of Sir George Macfarren, a selection from that composer's oratorio 'King David' will precede the performance of 'The Golden Legend' on the 8th prox.

For the next few years the words "first time" are likely to be often written against works by Schubert in concert programmes, as the publication of his complete compositions brings to light treasures hitherto kept from the world. Last Saturday was the anniversary of the master's death, and, as was fitting, the programme of the Crystal Palace Concert was chiefly made up of items bearing his name. Among these was an Overture in E minor, bearing the date February, 1819, though nothing appears to be known as to the occasion which called it forth. Probably, like many other works by the same hand, it was written for no particular purpose, and, once finished, was laid aside and forgotten. It has the genuine Schubertian impress, though it cannot be placed on a level with his most inspired utterances. As in some of the pianoforte sonatas of the same period, ideas which are good in themselves are repeated until they grow wearisome. Still there is charming writing in the overture, the conversational phrases for the wood wind being characteristic of Schubert. The other instrumental selections were three numbers of the 'Rosamunde' music and the great Symphony in C, which Sir George Grove persists should be called No. 10 until "the chain of evidence" relating to the 'Gastein' Symphony has been disproved. We were of opinion that it had been disproved, and at the best the chain suffers from the absence of some most important links. The vocalist at this concert was Mrs. Henschel, who sang three *Lieder*, including 'Die Junge Nonne,' with exquisite taste and expression. A Concertstück for violoncello by Herr Franz Néruda, played by the composer, is of no value as music, but it is a brilliant show piece, and it was remarkably well executed.

Musical Gossip.

We have criticized in another column the performance of the 'Œdipus Tyrannus' at Cambridge. Dr. Villiers Stanford in his music has been at least as successful as he was in the 'Eumenides,' particularly in the *Leitmotif*, which no composer since Wagner has employed more felicitously. The central idea of the work is the immutability of the decrees of fate, of which the herdsman of Laius is the unconscious instrument, and this is expressed by a wailing phrase in the minor key, allotted principally to the coro inglese. It may be due to accident or design that the figure bears a distinct resemblance to the herdsman's tune in 'Tristan und Isolde,' and the resemblance becomes remarkable when the violins accompany *tremolando* in descending thirds. In the well-

constructed and impressive prelude in A minor this motive forms the principal subject, while the second is a bold and dignified strain, apparently suggestive of the wisdom and glory of Œdipus during his best years as King of Thebes. We might quote several instances where the fate motive is used with admirable effect, but one will suffice. This occurs in the third act, when the chorus are expressing their hopes as to the true origin of Œdipus. It is a bright and almost joyful number, but it suddenly breaks off as the herdsman enters, and the ominous phrase rings out in a manner almost comparable to that of the death motive in 'Tristan' when Isolde extinguishes the torch. Constructively the choruses are simple, the voices being chiefly in unison; and although the strophe and antistrophe might perhaps have been more distinctly marked, there is throughout a firm rhythmical swing, in keeping with the lines of the poet. The finest number is the chorus at the end of the second act, where the citizens express their horror of the sins of impiety and arrogance. The close of this is remarkably impressive, and seems to foreshadow the horrible disclosures about to be made. The composer had, of course, to write for a small orchestra, but with the means at his disposal he has contrived to impart more colouring than a less accomplished musician would introduce with a much larger mass. In short, the music to 'Œdipus Tyrannus' is the work of a profound musical thinker, and, without possessing individuality of the highest kind, is throughout so appropriate to its purpose that it is difficult to conceive how the work could have been better wrought. Though even less suitable to the concert-room than the music to the 'Eumenides,' it might be as well to bring it to a hearing, as there is, of course, no chance of a performance of the play except at Cambridge.

THE second concert of the London Wind Instrument Union, on Friday last week, had an excellent programme. The concerted works were a pleasing Concertstück for quintet of wind and piano accompaniment, by Julius Rietz, Op. 41, and Mozart's Quintet in E flat for piano and wind, a beautiful work, of which the composer himself had a high opinion. Solos for flute by Macfarren, and clarinet by Spohr, were included; and Madame Cornelia Dalnoky, from the Vienna Opera, was the vocalist.

BRAHMS's latest Sonata for piano and violin, in A, Op. 100, was performed at the Popular Concerts for the first time last Saturday, the executants being Madame Néruda and Mr. Halle. We have already spoken more than once of this charming work, one of its composer's most genial and attractive productions. In the same programme were Mendelssohn's Quartet in E flat, Op. 12; Beethoven's 'Moonlight' Sonata; and Fibich's Pianoforte Quartet in E minor, Op. 11. Mr. Thorndike was the vocalist.

The programme on Monday was, as usual, of a familiar character, the concerted works being Brahms's Sextet in G, Op. 36, the merits of which are now fully appreciated, and Schubert's Trio in E flat, Op. 99. The rendering of Beethoven's Sonata in D minor, Op. 31, No. 2, by Mlle. Janotta would have been more acceptable if the pianist had not taken all three movements, but especially the *adagio*, at such a rapid pace. Several of the finest points in the work failed to make their due effect in consequence, and the poetic and semi-tragic feeling which pervades the sonata was not realized. Mrs. Henschel's rendering of Schumann's 'Der Nussbaum' and Brahms's 'Meine Liebe ist Grün' was as perfect as anything of its kind could well be.

THE second of the London Symphony Concerts on Wednesday afternoon had a wholly familiar programme, the principal items being Schubert's unfinished Symphony in B minor, Liszt's symphonic poem 'Les Préludes,' Mendelssohn's Overture to 'Camacho's Wedding,' Wagner's 'Träume,' and Beethoven's Violin Concerto, superbly played by Madame Néruda. On the

whole the playing of the orchestra was more satisfactory than at the previous concert. Wagner's Symphony in C will be performed for the first time next Tuesday evening.

THE first of Mr. Boosey's London Ballad Concerts was given on Wednesday evening at St. James's Hall, the artists appearing being Miss Mary Davies, Miss Alice Gomez, Madame Trebelli, Miss Eleanor Rees, Messrs. Lloyd, Santley, and Maybrick, and Madame Néruda. The newly formed choir, under the direction of Mr. Josiah Booth, appeared for the first time, and made a fairly favourable impression. It may, perhaps, be taken as a sign of the times that probably half the programme consisted of ordinary ballads.

THE second of Novello's Oratorio Concerts is announced for Thursday next, when Cowen's 'Ruth,' which was produced with so much success at the Worcester Festival, will be performed for the first time in London. The soloists will be Madame Alabani, Miss Agnes Larkcom, Miss Hope Glenn, Mr. Lloyd, and Mr. Watkin Mills, and the composer will conduct.

A MUSICAL festival has been given during the present week at Walthamstow. The chorus consisted of about one hundred and eighty voices, selected chiefly from the choral societies of Walthamstow, Leyton, Leytonstone, Wanstead, Woodford, and Buckhurst Hill. The orchestra, led by Mr. Carrodus, numbered about fifty performers. On Monday evening 'Elijah' was given under the direction of Mr. J. F. H. Read; on Thursday evening Mr. Read's new dramatic cantata 'Harold' was produced, under the composer's direction; and the festival will close this (Saturday) evening with a miscellaneous concert. We shall speak of the new cantata in our next issue.

THE one hundredth concert of the Sherborne School Musical Society will be given on the 19th prox., when a special festal song, written by Mr. James Rhoades and set to music by Mr. Louis N. Parker, the conductor of the society, will be included in the programme.

THE death is announced from Offenbach of J. A. André, the head of the well-known publishing firm, at the age of seventy-one. To Herr André the musical world is indebted for the first knowledge of many of Mozart's works. The deceased publisher possessed a large number of Mozart's autographs, and several of his more important compositions were first issued by the Offenbach firm.

Drama

The Week.

ST. JAMES'S.—Morning Performance: 'Evadne; or, the Statue,' a Tragedy in Five Acts. By Richard Lalor Sheil. CRITERION.—'The Circassian,' a Farcical Comedy in Three Acts. From the French by F. W. Broughton. ROYALTY.—'Le Monde où l'on s'ennuie,' Comédie en Trois Actes. Par E. Pailleron.

AN opportunity of seeing Sheil's 'Evadne' has not until now been afforded the playgoer since the days of Phelps's famous occupation of Sadler's Wells. Miss Anderson has, we believe, been seen in the United States as the heroine, but has, wisely, not included the character in her European repertory. 'Evadne' is not positively a bad play. It has some genuine dramatic fire, and portions of its later action are finely conceived. So much of the dialogue has, moreover, a character of the old drama that the auditor is apt to exaggerate the obligations of Sheil to 'The Traytor' of Shirley, on which his play is avowedly built. Unlike his predecessor, however, Sheil indulges in threats which lead to nothing. Colonna, the brother of the heroine, who answers to the Sciarrha (*sic*)

of the original, uses language of deadliest menace. An air of fatefulness and awe invests him, he dresses in black, and all speak of him with bated breath. When, however, the opportunity to avenge upon two men his sister's dishonour is afforded him, he proves a most meek gentleman. From the assassination of the prince, the would-be seducer, to which he is pledged, he shrinks; and though he assaults with all imaginable wrath her false lover, and reappears boasting of his exploit and wiping his bloody sword, he has inflicted but a flesh wound. This is not the stuff of which tragedy is made. 'Evadne' accordingly is not a tragedy. Ending as it does with a *carillon* of wedding bells, and with no one hurt but the villain, it is scarcely a "tragi-comedy," as the older dramatists called works of serious interest with a happy ending. The verse, moreover, is in the full sense blank, and made up of such painful inversions as "Traitor, whom meanest thou?" and the like. When it was first presented, on February 10th, 1819, the cast included Macready, Charles Kemble, Young, and Abbott, and Miss O'Neill. At Sadler's Wells George Bennett, Marston, and Mrs. Warner were among its interpreters. The latest presentation suffered from the weakness of the exponent of the heroine. It is hopeless for an actress whose powers, like those of Mrs. Rae, are untrained to attack a part in which, as in Evadne, the highest gifts of passion and emotion are requisite. Mr. Neville, however, played Colonna with earnestness and conviction, and Mr. Lewis Waller as Ludovico spoke well and acted with manliness and passion.

'The Circassian,' as Mr. Broughton calls his adaptation of 'Le Voyage en Caucase' of MM. Blavet and Carré, begins well and ends badly. Its first act opens pleasantly and gives promise of entertainment, its second act falls off, and its third act is hopeless. The idea on which the whole rests, that of a man publishing as his own a MS. which he has accidentally acquired, and finding himself embarrassed by the reputation it brings him, has been used before, but is practically fresh to the stage. In a farcical comedy treatment is more than idea, and the treatment in this case is commonplace and conventional. The play accordingly, though it was seen to the end, incurred severe condemnation, and is not likely to be much heard of in the future. Mr. David James, as the man who draws on himself inconvenient notoriety, gave an admirable picture of *bourgeois* life; and Mr. Giddens, Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Sydney Brough, Mrs. E. Phelps, and Miss Hughes made gallant, but unavailing efforts to stem the tide of misfortune.

In 'Le Monde où l'on s'ennuie,' which was revived on Monday, Madame Devoyod and Mdlle. Jane May made their first appearance this season. Less interest than attended previous performances seemed to be inspired by the new programme. In merit, however, the latest entertainment is no whit inferior to its predecessors. The part of the Duchesse is played by Madame Devoyod with admirable breadth and feeling; and Mdlle. May as Suzanne is delightful in freshness, spirit, and attraction. In addition M. Frazier is good as Bellac, and M. Lenormant an acceptable lover.

THE 'ŒDIPUS TYRANNUS' AT CAMBRIDGE.

In May, 1881, very soon after the performance of the 'Agamemnon' at Oxford had for the first time revealed the living power of the masterpieces of Attic drama to move an English audience, the 'Œdipus Tyrannus' of Sophocles was successfully presented at Harvard. A full account of this performance, written by Mr. Henry Norman, one of the principal actors, was published in a handsome volume. Copious extracts from this account were printed by Prof. Jebb as an appendix to his well-known edition of the play. It is interesting to compare the details there given with the performance of the play at Cambridge during the past week. But as few persons can have been fortunate enough to witness both performances, I do not propose to dwell here upon the points of resemblance and of difference between the two. It is more natural to compare the scenic effect of this play with that of others which have been given previously in this country, and more particularly of that last given at Cambridge, the 'Eumenides' of Aeschylus. Beforehand, and judging merely by a reader's impression of the two plays, I think few would have hesitated to pronounce that the 'Œdipus,' with its unique excellences of plot and construction, would lend itself far better than the 'Eumenides' to dramatic representation. Now that both plays have been given upon the same stage and under similar conditions, I think this judgment will have been as generally reversed. As I said at the time in these columns, the 'Eumenides' seemed to me in some respects more impressive than any Greek play previously given in England, hardly excepting the 'Agamemnon' itself. In the case of the 'Œdipus,' sustained as it is in interest, and unequalled as critics, from Aristotle downwards, have held it to be in point of construction, I confess, after seeing it performed at Cambridge, to a certain feeling of disappointment. One went prepared to be moved and impressed beyond measure by the tragic horror of the situation as it is gradually unfolded before one's eyes, and yet when the curtain fell the reality had fallen short of one's expectation. I think the reason is not far to seek. It is not merely that the subject-matter of the plot is to modern ideas so repulsive. It is rather that the play is one which depends to an unusual degree upon the individual actors, while the characters are of exceptional difficulty. The character of Œdipus, in particular, would tax the resources of an actor of the highest gifts and the widest experience; it is almost beyond the reach of a young amateur. The mere physical effort involved in the length of the part, and in the variety and complexity of the emotions to be portrayed, is such as only a trained actor could be expected to sustain. It is, therefore, no discredit to Mr. Randolph to have failed in rendering fully the dignity, the tragic grandeur of the Theban king as Sophocles conceived him—entangled, step by step, in the toils of inexorable destiny, until the true shepherd of his people, honoured and beloved by all, stands revealed as the unconscious perpetrator of crimes unspeakable, bringing shame and disaster upon himself and all his race.

After making these reservations, which the inherent difficulties of the play seem to demand, I must hasten to say that the performance was, nevertheless, full of interest, and those concerned in it deserve our heartiest thanks for the care and skill which they had so ungrudgingly bestowed upon it. The beautifully coloured palace front must rank as one of Mr. O'Connor's most successful efforts, and the colouring of the dresses was as rich and harmonious as one could desire. The opening scene was particularly striking. The Theban suppliants were discovered picturesquely grouped around an altar in the centre of the stage; after a short prelude Œdipus, in royal robe of rich scarlet, entered from the palace in the background and stood between the

stately columns to address his people. When Creon had brought the reply of the oracle the suppliants retired, and the chorus of Theban elders came upon the stage and descended to take up their usual position in the orchestra. The famous curse of Œdipus was hardly so impressively delivered as the words demand, and in the interview between Œdipus and Teiresias both Mr. Randolph and Mr. Head showed some tendency to scold. The altercation is an angry one, no doubt, but less rapidity of utterance and more control of the voice were needed to remind the audience of the high office and dignity of king and seer. The somewhat similar scene between Creon and Œdipus later on was a good deal better in this respect. The final chorus of Act I. was excellent both in music and action, and the scene that follows between Creon, Œdipus, and Jocasta was, on the whole, well rendered. Indeed, this and the final examination of the herdsmen, when the *ἀναγνώσις* becomes complete, were the most effective parts of the play—more so than the final scene, where the *pathos* of the situation seemed almost too long-drawn under the conditions of the performance. Special praise must be given to the beautiful chorus *ἴω γενεῖς βορῶν*, which in singing and action went better than any other, except, perhaps, the shorter one of Bacchic character which preceded it (l. 1086, foll.).

Turning to the individual performers, I have already implied that Mr. Randolph was hardly equal to the part of Œdipus; but it is fair to say that his performance as a whole was exceedingly creditable. He looked the part particularly well, and in some scenes, notably those with Jocasta and with the two herdsmen, his success was considerable; while in the final scene, if his acting lacked force and precision, he at any rate resisted the temptation to extravagance, and for this alone no small praise is due. The Creon of Mr. Miller seemed to me deserving of high praise, especially in point of gesture and elocution. Mr. Platts as Jocasta showed a just conception of his part, and his speech and bearing were, on the whole, well fitted to the character. His demeanour was almost too impassive while Œdipus was telling the story of his flight from Corinth and his meeting with Laius; but in the final scene, when the fatal truth bursts upon the queen, Mr. Platts rose to the occasion and showed real tragic power.

Among the minor characters the parts of the messengers from Corinth and from the palace were excellently filled by Mr. M. R. James and Mr. H. B. Smith. The former distinguished himself in the 'Birds' some years ago, and I am inclined to say that Mr. Smith's delivery of the speech where the final horrors of Jocasta's suicide and Œdipus's self-mutilation are so vividly described was, on the whole, the most successful passage in the present performance. The chorus were good on the whole, though both grouping and singing have been more successful on previous occasions. Of the music I am not here called upon to speak. In conclusion, I must congratulate the committee upon the success which has once more attended their labours, and express the hope that the result may encourage them to further efforts. These performances have yielded so much in the way both of pleasure and instruction that one would like to regard them as a permanent institution. I would suggest that next time the choice should fall upon Euripides, whom so far Cambridge has treated with undeserved neglect.

Grammatic Gossipy.

ON Saturday afternoon last 'The Lady of Lyons' was given at the Adelphi Theatre for the benefit of the Actors' Benevolent Fund. Miss Millward played Pauline; Mr. Terries, Claude Melnotte; Mr. A. Stirling, Damas; Mrs. A. Stirling, Madame Deschapelles; and Mr. Beveridge, Beauséant. 'Tears, Idle Tears,'

by Mr. Clement Scott, was also given by Mr. Terriss, Miss Millward, and Miss Carlotta Clercq.

BEFORE her departure, Madame Chaumont repeated her performance of *Toto*, the young *collégien* in the 'Toto chez Tata' of MM. Meilhac and Halévy.

MR. TERRY will shortly produce at Terry's Theatre 'The Woman-Hater,' a three-act farce by Mr. David Lloyd, in which he has been seen in the country. With a view to this production the company has been strengthened by the engagement of Mr. H. Kemble, Mr. Alfred Bishop, and other actors.

'THE ARABIAN NIGHTS' will shortly be transferred to the Comedy Theatre, and 'The Barrister,' it is understood, is consequently on the look-out for a home.

THE production at the Princess's of 'Théodora' is once more postponed, and 'Siberia,' by Mr. Bartley Campbell, is in the course of next month to be produced in its place.

UNDER the title of 'Auf Ehrenwort,' a version of Robertson's adaptation 'David Garrick' has been successfully produced by Mr. Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore at the Stadt Theater, Leignitz. This is preliminary to the production of the piece in Berlin.

On November 21st at Riga, the centenary of the day on which 'Don Carlos' was performed for the first time, in the language of an old Riga playbill, 'mit Aufwand besonderer Kosten inzzeniert,' a memorial festival was held. The Town Library of Riga possesses a manuscript of 'Don Carlos,' enriched with corrections from Schiller's own hand.

G. von MOSER's 'Bibliothekar' has had a brilliant success upon the Milan stage. The 'Bibliothekar' is now in preparation for all the leading theatres in Italy.

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Printed by JOHN C. FRANCIS, Athenæum Press, Tock's-court, Curzon-street, Chancery-lane, E.C.; and Published by the said JOHN C. FRANCIS at 22, Tock's-court, Curzon-street, Chancery-lane, E.C.

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